

by sections 138 and 139 of the Bill, which gave the Lieutenant-Governor power to enforce contributions from municipalities for *elementary vernacular* education. The distinction was that municipal commissioners *might* devote portion of their funds to the higher classes of schools, but *must* devote a small portion of it to elementary vernacular education. When this was put upon its proper basis, there could, he thought, be no real objection to the provision—not that he expected that his hon'ble friends opposite would not object to enforcing upon commissioners the duty of making payments on account of vernacular education; it was new and therefore it was horrible. But he would point out that in almost every civilized country this was made a charge upon local rating, and he thought it might be safely said that if our municipalities were sufficiently advanced for even the germs of self-government, we might fairly claim from them contributions for education. It was well known that the majority of municipalities were poor; that they had very small surpluses and many wants and responsibilities; and there was no doubt that in the first instance they would not be able very largely to contribute towards education. But there was no doubt that they did at present manage to contribute something to the support of dispensaries, and that many of them contributed very largely for this purpose; and it was to a great extent owing to a not very recent ruling of the Government, which allowed municipal contributions to be considered as private subscriptions, and thus enabled them to call for further assistance from the Government, that the number of dispensaries had of late very largely increased in Bengal. If municipalities contributed towards dispensaries, then he thought there was no great change in principle in requiring them to contribute towards education. If the people would only understand how closely allied ignorance was with disease, and both with vice, he thought he might say that to provide for elementary education was really a first step towards the future diminution of the charges for police and hospitals. Although he had said that the principle was a new one, it was in one aspect not new; it was not so very different from a well-known principle which had long obtained in Bengal under the system of providing *patshalas* and *gooroo mohashoyes*. In most villages in Bengal there were *patshalas*, and *gooroo mohashoyes* maintained nominally perhaps at the expense of the zemindars, but in reality paid for by the ryots. He had no doubt that when the novelty had worn off, and when the people became familiar with the idea, the terrors of the unknown would considerably diminish, and the same enlightened liberality which had already studded Bengal with anglo and anglo-vernacular aided schools would in its new sphere of municipalities work to the same ends, and with similar and perhaps more useful results.

There was one other point to which he would draw the attention of the Council, though it was perhaps scarcely one upon which this Council could take any effective steps,—it was in regard to the exemption of military officers residing in municipalities from taxation. The old law which was consolidated in the present Bill did not provide for this exemption, and the present Bill even did not do so; and he had no doubt that the Council would see that there was no obvious and fair reason why military officers, who shared in the benefits of municipal government, should not pay for those benefits with the rest of the people. This question was raised in 1866 in connection with the suburban municipality and the cantonments of Dum-Dum and Barrackpore, which were once under the operation of chowkeedaree unions under Act XX of 1856. The military authorities claimed exemption, but the municipalities did not see any reason to exempt them. The question was referred to the Government of India, who said that the question was a delicate and complicated one, and that it would be considered when the whole subject of residence in cantonments came under the consideration of the Government, and that in the mean time military officers should not be called upon to pay. From that time to this no orders had been issued upon the subject, and on a recent reference it was found that the matter was still deemed too complicated for decision. He did not see how the Council could do anything in this matter; but he wished to point out that in the portion of the Bill which provided for a tax upon carriages and horses, exemption was given for single chargers belong-

ing to officers, but military residents were clearly presumed and presupposed liable along with the rest of the inhabitants to all taxes. Again, the Bill gave no power to the commissioners, or to the Government, to exempt any person or class of persons from any particular tax, save in the instance of the tax upon houses, where it gave power to exempt persons solely on the ground of poverty. Should the Government of India say that the military authorities were not to pay municipal taxes, the Council would be in a dilemma, and the Government would be obliged to ask them for a special law to exempt them. Perhaps the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill would consider the expediency of introducing a section giving to the Government power to exempt any class of persons whom they should deem it necessary to exempt.

He had no further remarks to make in respect to the details of the Bill. He expected no doubt that we should hear many objections raised to the Bill; we should be told that it was Utopian to attempt to give even the germ of representative government to the people, who had not shown themselves fitted for such government; that it was monstrous, while the prominent wants of the country were not satisfied, to call upon them to provide for education: we should be told that we were legislating for the future; the taunt was perhaps a little stale, and he hoped that the future for which we were legislating was not a very distant future. He did not see how, consistently with our duty to our country, we could, whilst we were in India, do otherwise. It was not for us to say, "until you can swim you shall not go into the water; until you know the value of representative institutions, you shall not have them; until you know the benefits of education, you shall not be given the means of education." If we were not to be in the *van*, if we were not to *lead* the people in what we believe to be the path of progress, he knew not what other duty we had. It was surely not for us in this country to sink to what a recent writer speaks of as "administrative nihilism," and to confine our attention solely to maintaining the distinctions between *meum* and *tuum*. The foundation stone of municipal institutions in Bengal was laid by Sir Cecil Beadon in 1864, and during the whole of his Lieutenant-Governorship he supervised them with great personal interest and care. He looked upon this Bill as the natural and necessary sequel to the legislation of 1864. He had frequently heard it said that the work which was done then was a sham, and he could quite understand how, from an English point of view, and when compared with English institutions, it would appear to be a sham. To his view it was not so. Such municipalities as we had, and such municipalities as we shall under this Bill have, were no doubt most imperfectly developed, but they were adapted to a very imperfect age and state of society. It appeared to him that it would be as reasonable to say that the fleets of our ancestors were a sham because they were not iron-clad, as it was to say that these municipal institutions, though adapted to the special circumstances of the country, were a sham, because they were not equal to English institutions. It appeared to him that they were capable of expansion, development, and growth, and he had no doubt that we should see that they would develop, and be most useful and important means of national education; and he knew of nothing in the whole scope of public administration that could be compared in its importance as an instrument of national education with local self-government, and for this local self-government the Bill provided, he believed, a very satisfactory and hopeful foundation. He trusted that this Council would affirm that principle by referring the Bill to a select committee.

RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE said, as far as he had been able to master the details of this Bill, he did not think there was anything to which exception could be taken as regards the consolidation of the different Municipal Acts now in operation. He confessed, however, that he did not quite see the necessity of this consolidation, unless the object were to impose new taxes and throw new responsibilities upon the people. But this was what struck him to be the most objectionable feature of the Bill. Already there was an outcry throughout the country against the excessive pressure of taxation; tax after tax was being imposed upon the people in one shape or another, (it mattered not whether imperial or local), and the minds of the people had been thrown into a state of

uncertainty and alarm. He would appeal to the official members of the Council to bear him out in these observations. The days of the pagoda tree now no longer existed, and stubborn facts had proved to the world the exceedingly poor condition of the people of this country. It was only the other day that a respectable journal published an abstract of the income tax statistics of the Lower Provinces, which showed that only 43 in every 10,000 persons could be assessed under schedule A of the Act. Allowing sufficient margin for the over-assessment of the income tax officials, the poverty of the population generally was quite patent. He submitted whether under these circumstances new burdens were not likely to create a deal of dissatisfaction.

The hon'ble member in charge of the Bill had said that two only out of the seven forms of taxation provided in the Bill were new. But he begged to draw attention to the fact that the provision for the procession tax itself included another tax, viz. a tax upon ceremonies not exclusively religious, but which had no connection whatever with processions. Tolls upon vehicles and beasts of burden has been hitherto levied in certain places where roads had been constructed by the ferry fund committees, but as far as he was aware he knew of no instance in which they had been collected within any municipal limit. The license tax upon trades and professions was known only to the metropolis of Calcutta, and would be entirely new to all the mofussil municipalities. Of the other taxes it should be remembered that some only were applicable to one class of municipalities and some to another; but under the Bill as it stood all these taxes might, if necessary, be imposed in any one place. True it was that the taxes were not to be compulsory, but with so many new obligations upon the municipalities there must of necessity be new taxes, and the only choice the people would have in the matter would be to submit to just as many taxes as might be necessary to meet the increased demands on the municipality. Our nursery tales related that in former days persons convicted of capital offences were sometimes generously offered their choice of the mode of death they liked to die; death they certainly had to meet, but they had the consolation of selecting the way in which they preferred to be killed; the position of the rate-payers under this Bill would be something similar. Taxed they must be, and that heavily too, but they would have the satisfaction of selecting the sort of burden they would like to be pressed with. It might be urged that as the Commissioners were to be elected, and as representatives of the people, they would accept only such burdens as would be suited to their capacities and conditions. He was not sure how far, with rare exceptions, the population of mofussil towns were fitted for elective municipalities; but however that might be, he was humbly of opinion that as long as the Magistrate would be the Chairman of the Commissioners, the other Commissioners must necessarily sink into the position of "*jo hookum* members;" for who that held any subordinate office under Government, or owned any property in the mofussil, would think of incurring the displeasure of the *hakim*?

Besides, power was reserved to the Government to remove any Commissioner for neglect of duty, and nothing would be easier for a Magistrate than to report the name of any Commissioner for removal, who might happen to oppose the Magistrates's scheme of taxation. Moreover, power was given by the Bill to the Government to compel Commissioners to do certain things. The hon'ble the President had on a former occasion observed that this power would be confined to three things, viz. education, the maintenance of roads, and police. With all deference to the views expressed by His Honor, he (Rajah Joteendro Mohan Tagore) would take leave to draw the attention of the Council to the latter portion of section 137 of the Bill, which ran as follows:—

"And the Lieutenant-Governor may, on the report of such committee, call upon the Commissioners, by requisition in writing signed by him and published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, to raise the necessary funds and carry out the purposes of this Act, and thereupon if the Commissioners neglect for the space of three months then next ensuing to comply with the said requisition, the Lieutenant-Governor may direct the Magistrate to raise the necessary funds under the provisions of this Act, and carry out in all respects the purposes thereof."

He spoke under correction, but it seemed to him—

[His Honor the President explained that it appeared to him that section 137 was complete in itself, and that the words read out referred specially to that section and not to the whole Act.]

RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE continued.—However that might be, under the circumstances mentioned he must confess that he thought that the elective system would be nothing but in name, and that the real power would be in the hands of the magistrates. He was free to confess that these officials generally had nothing but the good of the country at heart: but their stay in any one station being for a limited period only, with an excusable human feeling, they were anxious to make their short administration as brilliant as might be, and leave their impress on the locality. Necessarily they were anxious to carry out their English notions of municipalities with high pressure speed. If the law therefore afforded such facilities of taxation as were given by this Bill, tax after tax would be imposed upon the people, and their sufferings would have no end.

As to third class municipalities he did not quite understand how the question of chakran lands could be separated. He presumed that it was neither the intention of the Government to make the people maintain a double set of men for the same police duties, nor to release the owners of chakran from their obligations, and make them a gift of the lands rent-free. He was not in full possession of the circumstances under which the Government intended to proceed in this matter, and he was not therefore in a competent position to enable him to discuss the matter further at present.

With reference to the subject of education he begged to bring to the notice of the Council the fact that the present funds of municipalities could never be found adequate to bear the additional charge for education. With this new obligation therefore there must of necessity be a new tax, although it might not be called an educational cess. The effect, however, would be the same, whether the tax was taken in the name of an educational cess or in any other name. His Honor the President had justly observed that there was hardly a village in Bengal in which there was not a *patshala*. He (Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore) would go a step further and say that there was hardly any considerable village in which there were not two or three *patshalas*, which proved that the voluntary system of education was working well. There were of course some exceptional places in which no such institution as a *patshala* existed, but the presumption, in such cases, was that the people in such places being either actual cultivators or laborers could not spare their children for the school, and consequently the want of primary education was not felt there, and, even if *patshalas* were established in those places, little or no advantage would be taken of the benefits they would afford, unless a system of compulsory education were introduced by the Government. The effect therefore of having such compulsory provisions in the Bill would be to empower overzealous magistrates to establish *patshalas* where they would be absolutely useless, or to raise existing *patshalas* to a standard far beyond the means and requirements of the people.

MR. ROBINSON said that this Bill for the consolidation of the municipal law was one of the most important measures that had ever been laid before the Council. Whereas municipalities were undoubtedly the true foundation of free institutions, and this Bill would be the most important and comprehensive step towards giving the people of this country something in the form of self-government, to which legislation had been tending since the government was taken over by the Crown, he thought that in considering this Bill we ought to dismiss entirely from our minds any idea that we were introducing any boon of western civilization to the people of this country. For the real fact was that the people of India were perfectly well acquainted with municipal institutions, that they lived under social institutions, bearing all the force and effect of municipalities, hundreds of years before the British came to India. On a former occasion he had remarked that it would be highly desirable, in connection with the subject of taxation, that the opinions of the bulk of the people should be made known to the Council. His Honor the President then remarked

that it would be extremely desirable that that should be done, but that the masses of the people had no representatives in this Council, and that there was much difficulty in ascertaining what their real sentiments were. He (Mr. Robinson) certainly did not represent the people of the country, and he was not aware that even the native gentlemen who sat in this Council did so. Considering that this Bill, which related to a subject with which the people of this country were thoroughly acquainted, he thought it would be most desirable that every possible step should be taken by the Government—and he had no doubt that it was in the power of the Government to take such steps—to ascertain the views of as large a portion of the native community as possible, especially in regard to the different forms of taxation to be imposed by the Bill. He had himself seen a strong illustration of what the native population could do in carrying out many of the objects of municipal institutions. In the city of Hattas in the North-Western Provinces there was not a European resident, either official or non-official, and there was no official from between 25 or 30 miles of the place. But under the supervision of native gentlemen in the place, that city was as perfect and well-worked in its arrangements as any place he had ever seen in India; it was clean, well-ordered, and well-kept in every possible way. It seemed to him that we must assume that if the people of the North-Western Provinces could accomplish such a result as that, it must be equally possible for the people of Bengal, who, as a rule, were possessed of higher intelligence, to produce similar results, and to be able to give most important advice as to how those results could best be arrived at.

The subject upon which a great deal had been said was the variety of the forms of taxation. His Honor the President had described them as a choice of a number of good things. He (Mr. Robinson) was inclined to think that these good things were really too many. He would not at present enter into details; that would be done when the Council came to consider the clauses of the Bill; but he could not see how this variety of taxes could be levied without their becoming cumulative. The hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, in alluding to this subject, had said that in a place in which one or two of these taxes were applicable, the others would not be resorted to. He (Mr. Robinson) really could not follow the hon'ble member's argument, and he thought that, on consideration, the hon'ble member would find that that could not be meant. It was very true that, as a rule, the greater number of these cumulative taxes would fall only upon the richer people in municipalities, but still, even in regard to them, it would not be fair or reasonable that they should pay in excess of what their position demanded. Another objection which struck him with regard to this great variety of taxation was this, that municipalities would be guided by different ideas and different views, and it seemed to him that it would be impossible to avoid the effect of one place being made very much dearer or very much cheaper than another, and the people would naturally flock to cities under municipal institutions where these charges were light, and that they would naturally leave those cities where the municipal charges were heavier, and there might be constantly considerable and very disturbing fluctuations of the population moving about the country, and disarranging the plans of many municipalities, specially upsetting their estimates of income.

The only special tax to which he would now allude was the octroi duty. That he considered in every way to be a most objectionable tax: in fact, he could not see how to get over the physical difficulty of collecting it in any way except in walled towns having gates of entrance. He had been lately through several walled cities in Italy where this tax was collected by guards stationed at the gates, which he believed to be the only way in which it could be collected. But it seemed to him that it would be impracticable in the straggling, open towns in Bengal to effectively collect the tax at all at a cost that could make it remunerative to municipalities. In addition to that was the difficulty pointed out by the hon'ble member who opened the debate (Mr. Bayley), of avoiding this tax becoming a transit duty. He thought that was a matter for grave consideration, and he entirely agreed with the hon'ble member in all the remarks which he made upon that subject.

One other remark he would make, which was not perhaps exactly in connection with the consideration of the present Bill, was the proposal that under certain restrictions the commissioners should be made elective. He thought it was highly desirable that the elective principle should be carried out as far as possible; but he would suggest that probably it would be desirable that that principle should first be tried in Calcutta where it did not exist. He thought it would be very advisable to try it here, where municipal institutions had been in existence for some years, and the result would be a safe guide in extending it to municipalities in the mofussil. He felt strongly that this was a Bill of great importance, and he was sure that all the members of the Council would give it their most earnest consideration. He hoped that if the discussion on this Bill was taken in the freest and fullest manner possible, and if every information was sought for from the people who would be affected in their social life by the institutions proposed to be established under the Bill, and fair attention given to those opinions, he was sure it would be passed in a form which, while providing for the prosperity of the people under the Government of Bengal in the future, would at the same time avoid creating dissatisfaction and irritation in the present, an object he considered most especially to be desired.

BABOO DIGUMBER MITTER said, he fully appreciated the good intentions and the liberal views which had inspired some of the leading provisions of the proposed measure, and however widely opinions might differ as to their adaptability to this country, they afforded at any rate an assurance of the generous and enlightened policy which it was the wish of the Government to pursue in the administration of these provinces. There could be no question that it would materially forward the cause of good government, if the people, under well-organized institutions, undertook the management of their own local affairs. But the question still remained, were the conditions met with in this country such as to encourage a reasonable hope of these popular institutions being successfully introduced here? It was needless to inquire whether or not such institutions were congenial to the genius of the Aryan race, to which it was said it was our privilege to belong, or whether they were at any time in existence in this country. It was sufficient for our present purpose to know that indigenous institutions of the kind, even in a qualified form, were nowhere to be found at the present day, at any rate in Bengal, and he must confess, however reluctantly, that the country was neither politically, socially, morally, or intellectually prepared for their reception. Apart from other considerations, upon which he need not dwell, he would only observe that the very essence of such institutions, that from which they drew their vitality, and upon which their successful working was mainly dependant, was totally wanting here; he meant public spirit, viz. that enlightened idea of self-interest, which prompted men under certain political conditions to subordinate individual to public good, and to submit cheerfully to self-sacrifice so that the well-being of the community might be promoted. There was no want of private charity, no want of active sympathy, of a strong impulse, to relieve the sufferings of others; but such a thing as a well-directed confederation for the advancement of the common interests of the community was utterly unknown. The only object for which such an union was at present possible, was when a Barwaree Poojah was to be celebrated in the village, or when a man, who had rendered himself obnoxious by his heterodox opinions in religion, was to be outcasted. It would, he hoped, be hardly contended, that such a state of social disintegration was at all congenial to the healthy development of popular institutions, which, wherever they existed, were found to be the out-come, and not, as he humbly believed, the precursor of national self-government, which it was His Honor's earnest wish to foster among the people of the country. It was not to be wondered at, therefore, that the attempt hitherto made to naturalize these institutions in this country had not resulted in success. Instead of gradually attaining to the dignity and usefulness of popular institutions, whether for the impartial and judicious levy of taxes, or for the equitable application of the same, they had for all practical purposes degenerated into organizations for

investing one man with irresponsible power in respect of both, and the power, he was sorry to say, was seldom exercised with a sparing hand. It was a general complaint that the taxes the rate-payers had to pay were heavy: nor were they impartially levied; and instances were not quite unknown of the pressure of the municipal taxes having driven men to desert their ancestral homes and hearths, and expatriate themselves to places where these institutions were yet unknown. Neither were the purposes to which the municipal funds were applied such as benefitted the general body of rate-payers, nor such as they would sanction if they had any will of their own in the matter. The real truth was that the non-official native members could not, for many reasons, exercise a salutary check over the action of the chief executive officer of the municipality, nor would they individually or collectively venture to oppose him in any of his pet measures at the possible risk of incurring his displeasure. There were, he admitted, exceptions, and honorable ones too, but nevertheless they were exceptions which only went to prove the rule. The only check under the circumstances to extravagance, a weakness to which we were all more or less liable, when disbursing money which did not belong to us and for which we were not accountable, was that which was imposed by the forbearance of the executive himself. Such was his (Baboo Degumber Mitter's) experience of the municipal institutions as they had been found on trial in this country; and holding the causes of their failure, as already stated, to be those which were not easily removable by legislation, he was far from sanguine of happier results attending the improvement so liberally conceived and earnestly contemplated to be introduced in their constitution. He was afraid that his views on the subject would not be sympathized with by some of his educated countrymen, but he regretted he could not, for the sake of an idea, close his ears to the loud complaints which these so-called popular institutions had already evoked; and without meaning that these institutions should be at once swept away, he would bring them under more efficient control than could be exercised by the non-official commissioners, under such control as he believed, and he trusted to a certain extent would be met by section 205 of the Bill. At any rate, he felt considerable reluctance in supporting the further extension of these institutions, especially to rural villages, as he believed was contemplated under part XII of the Bill.

As for the new sources of taxation proposed in the Bill, their propriety or otherwise could not, he humbly thought, be fairly considered without at the same time taking into consideration the nature of the obligations which the Bill sought to impose upon the municipality. If the obligations were such as should justly devolve upon them, or such as, under existing circumstances, they were imperatively called upon to undertake in the interest of the rate-payers, the municipality must any how find means to discharge those obligations, and it would merely be a question for consideration whether, in view of the agency available, and other circumstances peculiar to particular localities, some of the proposed new taxes would not be infinitely more harassing and vexatiously burdensome to the rate-payers than an augmentation of the present direct taxes, and whether the levy of such taxes would not entail an expenditure in establishment quite disproportionate to their probable gross yield. He would, however, take this opportunity of respectfully objecting to taxing general income for municipal purposes. He admitted that the provision to tax according to circumstances was not quite an innovation in this Bill, but it had never before taken that definite and practical shape which he believed section 32 of the Bill was designed to give to it. As regarded the obligations which were recommended to be imposed upon the municipality, viewing them with the light thrown upon them by His Honor at the last meeting of the Council, viz. that all of them were not compulsory, he should have had little to say in respect of them if he thought they would really be self-imposed, or, in other words, if the bodies to whom the choice of imposing them was to be delegated, had any of the essential elements of self-government in their composition, or if he thought that the same could be infused into them by means of legislation. But, as he believed, the choice of their imposition would rest with some others than the rate-payers, and as, after all, the municipalities, as had been so aptly described by the Hon'ble

Mr. Strachey in the other council, were but a branch of the Government, it was on that account of the utmost importance that the principles under-lying those obligations should be carefully examined before they acquired the force of law, and that task could not be better performed than by the select committee to whom the Bill might be referred.

As for education however, he was glad to be able to endorse fully all that had been said on the subject by His Honor and the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill at the last meeting of the Council and on other previous occasions. There could be no question that every child had a right to receive an education suited to his condition in life, and if his parents were unable to give it to him, he had an undoubted claim upon the State for the same; and he (Baboo Digumber Mitter) did not know that a better scheme could have been devised to supplement the imperial grant, which was admittedly insufficient for the purpose, than the one recommended in this Bill; which, while obviating the necessity of a special cess for the purpose, enunciated the only practical and rational mode of disseminating and developing mass education in this country, viz. by means of the gradual application of the grant-in-aid system. Mass education was no doubt desirable alike in the interests of good government and of humanity, but it was equally desirable that a sudden disruption should not take place in the existing social and industrial economy of the country, by its being quickened by a sort of hot-house treatment, or pursued under a system of tuition which might inspire a distaste for the specially arduous life to which at least three-fourths of the population of the country were destined. And towards that end he fully agreed with His Honor that the indigenous *patshala*, or education by a *goroo mohashay*, which until lately was the only education available to the middle classes in all the mofussil towns, was far preferable to the system of mass education inaugurated by the education department, which, besides being expensive, aimed at imparting a kind of education evidently inconsistent with a life of drudgery, which, as he had already observed, three-fourths of the population must inevitably lead. But it might be said that the scheme of mass education propounded in the Bill would be emasculated by excluding the rural villages, as he had suggested, from its operation. If he had understood part XII of the Bill aright, he believed it contemplated the extension of municipal government to villages which were now covered by the Chowkeedaree Act passed last year by this Council. If so, he thought that for purposes of fostering the growth of indigenous *patshalas* in villages where the same might be needed, it would be enough to revise that Act to the extent of investing the punchayets of such villages with the further power of raising a sum sufficient to meet the educational demand of the village. This sum, supplemented by a like amount from the grant-in-aid fund, would soon bring into existence a number of cheap *patshalas*, enough to meet the present educational requirements of the country, without at the same time proving such a drain on the imperial grant for education as it might find it impossible to meet. These village *patshalas* might be placed under the supervision of the punchayets and the sub-divisional officers, as the municipal *patshalas* were designed to be placed under that of the magistrate and the municipal commissioners.

In regard to the only other new obligation imposed on the municipality, viz. the support or relief of the poor, he was afraid that the country would regard it as the thin end of the wedge towards the general introduction of a "poor rate." He did not for a moment deny that the really helpless had a claim for support upon the community to which he belonged, but the social system of the country, to which the utmost respect was yet paid, was such that legislative interference in that direction was scarcely called for. There were few Hindoos or Mahomedans in the country who would refuse to give shelter and food to a helpless relative, however distantly connected by blood, and it was to this happy feature in our social fabric that was mainly due the fact, that death by starvation was seldom or never heard of in this country except in times of widespread and general distress, such as could only be caused by famine. He humbly questioned therefore the wisdom of the policy.

which sought to substitute an expensive and of necessity a complicated machinery of relief under the authority of law, for one which was already in operation, and was working satisfactorily, on a self-acting principle.

MOULVY ABDOL LUTEEF said he had listened with pleasure, and studied he hoped with profit, the speeches made at several meetings of the Council by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, and he must say that seldom had a measure, involving the delicate application of so many important principles of local finance and taxation to the necessities of a province so little advanced in municipal experience as Bengal, been explained with such clearness and precision. He had also been mindful of the opinions expressed outside of this Council, and he could not but regard it as a fortunate circumstance that public opinion was sufficiently advanced to be able to appreciate the benefits of a measure about to be extended to the country. If he might venture on a suggestion at this stage of the Bill, he would propose that the Bill which gave a consolidated municipal law to all places in the mofussil to which the Government might determine to extend it, and left out the Presidency town of Calcutta for reasons which were self-evident, should also leave out the municipality of the suburbs of the metropolis which had a municipal law of its own. That law was quite sufficient for all practical purposes, and only required some amendment to make it complete, for which a short Act would answer far better than bringing the suburbs within the range of this municipal law. In fact it would be difficult to work such a law in the suburban municipality, the administration of which was but little different from that which prevailed in Calcutta. The police of the suburbs was controlled from the police office in Lal Bazar. There was a very large European and wealthy and intelligent native population in the suburbs, whose wants and requirements of municipal government were far ahead in such matters of those of the people in the places to which the Bill under discussion might be held to apply. He would therefore strongly recommend the insertion of a special clause exempting the suburbs of Calcutta from the operation of this Bill.

As regards the taxes proposed, there was, in his opinion, very little reasonable objection to the number included in the Bill, since it was optional with municipalities to select whichever of them they liked; but he must say that the octroi was not at all suitable to the circumstances of towns in Bengal.

MR. WYMAN said he had no doubt that not only this Council, but the general public, would be greatly gratified at the introduction of this Bill, which proposed not only to consolidate and improve the various laws relating to municipalities throughout Bengal, but also to introduce the system of election of municipal commissioners. The hon'ble member opposite (Mr. Robinson) had remarked that there was nothing novel in the features which this Bill proposed to introduce, as municipal institutions had existed in a great state of perfection hundreds of years before we came to this country. There was no doubt that municipal institutions did exist in Bengal hundreds of years ago, but it was also the fact that those institutions did not exist now. Therefore the alarm with which this Bill had been received by certain classes was to a certain extent understandable, inasmuch as it contained novel features and proposed to extend municipal taxation. That the result of the Bill would be to increase taxation in the small towns, he had very little doubt, but seeing that a safeguard was allowed in the shape of the liberal provision allowing two-thirds of the commissioners to be elected, he thought that that objection was almost met. As civilization and intelligence increased, the desire to expend more money, and therefore to raise more taxes among municipalities, would undoubtedly take place, and the fear which had been expressed, that this already heavily-taxed province would be still further called upon to contribute to local improvements, would only, he feared, be too surely realized. It seemed to him that there was no escaping such a result, and therefore the only plan was to protect the interests of the people by giving them a large voice in the government of municipal affairs.

He had not had time to study the details of the Bill in the manner in which he had wished to have done, but he trusted to be able to do so afterwards. The only point to which he wished to refer, was the compulsory power vested in the Lieutenant-Governor in respect to police, roads and education. In regard to the first two points, His Honor the president had so thoroughly explained the absolute necessity of roads and police—the necessity of the one being kept in efficient order, and of the other being maintained at its proper strength for the protection of life and property—that nothing more could be said upon the subject. But he found himself in a very difficult position when he came to consider the next matter, namely education; for, while his feeling was doubtful as to the desirability of having a compulsory provision in respect to the education of a people who were so far behind their wants and civilization as the people of Bengal were, and while he felt—if he might so term it—the danger of those provisions being carried too far, he also felt most strongly the necessity for the education of the masses. He knew that he would be met by the argument that England had very recently introduced what was considered the wise and necessary measure of compulsory education of the people; but it had taken a very long time to form that opinion, and it was only to-day, as it were, that opinion in England had become strong enough to pass such a measure of compulsory education, and the comparison between the intelligent status of the people of England and the very poor of the province of Bengal could hardly be said to be a fair one, and in fact the comparison could hardly be made at all. Therefore he felt somewhat doubtful whether we were justified in respect to the adoption of compulsory education of the masses in this country, who perhaps did not need it, in relation to their peculiar condition, quite so urgently as was supposed. But he really could not affirm the contrary principle, because he felt that it would in the end conduce to the diminution of taxation by decreasing crime and increasing commercial prosperity. He merely threw out that remark as it occurred to him, but he felt certain that the wisdom of this Council would affirm such principles in such a way as should not only be an honor to itself, but also truly benefit the great masses for whom this legislation was being provided.

MR. DAMPIER said he would first take up the remarks which had been made by the hon'ble member who had just sat down (Mr. Wyman, as he was dealing with what no doubt was the prominent point of interest in the Bill, viz. the compulsory power which the Bill proposed to give to the Lieutenant-Governor as regards obliging municipalities to contribute towards elementary education; now he (Mr. Dampier) would wish it to be understood that he was speaking entirely for himself, for he had not been put in possession of His Honor the President's views upon this subject, and therefore spoke entirely under correction of the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, and rather in the shape of asking for information. On one point he must begin by differing entirely from the opinions of the hon'ble member who had just sat down; he would start from the point that in his opinion there was not the slightest doubt that it was our duty to extend elementary education of the lowest form as widely as we possibly could do amongst the masses. It was no doubt the duty of the public in general, as distinguished from the Government, to do all in their power and to act up to their responsibilities in this matter. It appeared to him that the working of this compulsory clause would be somewhat in this way. If within the boundaries of a municipality, the private arrangements of the inhabitants were such as to show that they were acting up to their responsibilities; if they raised subscriptions, if they got grants-in-aid from the Government under the rules passed for that purpose, to such an extent as, reasonably speaking, to place the benefits of elementary education within the reach of the poor of the municipality, then there would be no reason for the interference of the Government, nor would it be necessary for the municipality even to interfere. This was the best and most perfect form in which education could be given. But if private persons were backward and did not fulfil their responsibilities, and means were not provided for educating the lower classes within a municipality, then came in the action of a municipality. The members of it would act probably at first by exerting their personal

influence; they would urge upon the landholders and influential people of the place who were in a position to do something, that it was a shame to them as inhabitants of the place that they did not provide sufficient funds for this purpose; and that if they failed to do so, the municipality would have to come in and supplement the funds by additional taxation. Then as he understood the question (but still not being thoroughly acquainted with what had passed within the last two years he spoke under correction) if all endeavours to raise sufficient private subscriptions failed, contributions might be given by the municipalities to supplement private subscriptions. Such contributions had hitherto been treated as private subscriptions towards making up the proportion that was necessary to the obtaining of grants-in-aid from the Government. He assumed that it was intended that that principle should continue, that municipalities would supplement private subscriptions, and that to the sums thus made up, where grants-in-aid were necessary, grants-in-aid would be added. That was his idea of what would be the working of these provisions; and if that were so, he could not understand that they could be objected to, except by starting from the position that it was not our business to educate the people. If the masses of the people were to be educated, then surely it was within towns more than any where else that this education should be given; towns were the nuclei from which education as well as all civilization should spread.

The next point to which he would refer was a remark which had fallen from the hon'ble member who opened the debate (Mr. Bayley), which was that this Bill contained the germ of election of members of municipalities. He (Mr. Dampier) had no ambition to be considered a reformer, in the sense in which the term was ordinarily used, but he could not allow this remark to pass over without asking permission to read to the Council a few remarks which were made in this Council in introducing the District Towns' Act of 1868. He then said:—

“By the present law, and generally by section 21 of this Bill, the magistrate appointed the members of the punchayat; but with the view of keeping pace with the times, it was provided that it should be lawful for the Government, if it should see fit, to prescribe rules for the appointment of members of the punchayat by the election of the tax-payers or of members of the punchayat, or in any other manner than by the nomination of the magistrate; that was to say, it was hoped that when the Government saw a town sufficiently advanced to elect one or two or more members of its own punchayat, it should pass rules, taking away from the magistrate the power of nomination, and conferring the power of election on the tax-payers.”

Then in presenting to the Council the report of the Select Committee, it had been said:—

“Sections had been introduced as to the constitution of these local committees, enabling the Government to lay down different rules for the appointment of members of the committees in different towns according to the stage of advancement which each town might have reached. Unless any other mode of appointment were prescribed, the magistrate, with the sanction of the commissioner of the division, was to nominate the members of the committee; but provision was made for the election of the members when the Government had reason to believe that the town was far enough advanced.”

• That section was reported in the proceedings as having been passed only with verbal amendments, but the form in which it had been passed obliged him to read these remarks of his as explanatory of the intention of the Council. The section was passed as the 24th section of Act VI of 1868, and it ran—

“The members of every town committee and ward committee shall from time to time be nominated and appointed by such persons and in such manner as shall be directed by any orders which may be from time to time passed in that behalf by the Government of Bengal, and unless and until such orders shall be passed, shall be nominated and appointed by the magistrate of the district with the sanction of the commissioner of the division.”

Read by the light of the remarks which he had just read, this section of Act VI of 1868 fully contemplated the possibility of election at some future day, and moreover the latter part of the section distinctly recognized it, for it provided that the proportion of official members should not be more than one-third, unless such persons were elected to be members of the committee, otherwise than by appointment of the Government, or by any officer of Government. He thought it was a remarkable sign of the advance of public opinion

that in 1868 the suggestion of elective representation was passed over absolutely without remark; but that in 1872 the subject was touched upon, and it immediately became one of those points which was hailed with satisfaction.

The hon'ble member who opened the debate (Mr. Bayley) had made some remarks about the police. He (Mr. Dampier) cordially concurred with the hon'ble member in those remarks, and he believed that there never had been any doubt in the Government of Bengal that the police arrangements in municipality under the existing Acts were too elaborate and too expensive, and that the wishes of the people were not sufficiently consulted as to its details and constitution. He entirely went with the move which was now made in that matter.

With regard to the remarks from the hon'ble member opposite (Bahoo Digumber Mitter) he did not quite understand the force of his strictures. His objection seemed to be that in spite of any provisions which could be made, the magistrate would still be the only real and effective power in municipalities. Now did the hon'ble member mean to say that the case would be better if there were no municipalities? Did he wish to say nakedly that he would prefer to have the magistrate acting under the direct control of his official superior and Government without any thing in the shape of municipal machinery? If he did mean this he (Mr. Dampier) could only say that he did not think the hon'ble member in this respect represented the views of many of his countrymen. He (Mr. Dampier) admitted that a magistrate with strong opinions, and strong opinions would no doubt exercise great influence within the debating room of the municipality; and having induced the commissioners to adopt his views, he would come out, armed with their concurrence, a much stronger man as Chairman of the municipality, and acting in their name, than he (with respect to his official superiors and to the outer world in general) would have been had he stood alone; and in this sense he confessed that this Bill might be said to add to the power of the magistrates. But was the hon'ble member prepared to say that municipalities in remote districts in Bengal were the only working bodies in which that took place? was it not the case in every combination of men who had to act together? Even though in theory each had the same weight as his fellows, the man who, by position or other circumstances was the strongest, or who had the strongest will, would first influence his colleagues to accept his views, some unwillingly, some heartily, and then would go forth much stronger as the representative of those views, although in reality they were the private views of one man. He (Mr. Dampier) could not think that the hon'ble member's views as to the magistrate's despotism would in any way be served by sweeping away his municipal colleagues who, however weak, would certainly, to some extent, trammel and check a wrong-headed and despotic magistrate from carrying out his own measures.

There were two or three minor points to which he wished to direct the attention of the Select Committee. One of these was section 59. It was a very old rule in municipalities, and one which obtained generally: it related to the tax on horses and carriages, and provided that ownership for any number of days in a quarter created liability to the tax for the whole quarter. It was urged that this was an expedient rule, because there was so much concealment that it was impossible to ascertain on what day a vehicle was set-up. He thought that that difficulty ought to be got over by a compromise. Surely if you took half the tax of the quarter you would presumably lose in one half of the cases and gain in the other. It seemed to him that it would be more just to take one half the tax for the quarter from those who set-up a vehicle within any quarter than to levy the full tax for the quarter.

The next point which he would notice was the power of delegating certain powers of the Lieutenant-Governor as mentioned in section 202 and elsewhere in the Bill. He would be obliged if the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill would explain how it was proposed to work that provision.

The last point to which he would allude was the tax on processions and ceremonies. He believed that processions were a good subject for taxation; but

the scale of fees proposed seemed open to objection, and he would commend its consideration to the Select Committee. Again, it would be absolutely necessary to define what a procession was in the sense of the Act, so as not to leave a door open for harassing interference from the police in the exercise of the powers conferred on them by the provisions of the section.

MR. BERNARD said he was glad that so many members of the Council had considered the Bill and had expressed their opinion thereon; and he was still more glad to find that most of the speakers, though they had criticised some parts of the Bill, did in the main seem able to approve and support its principles. He felt sure that whatever had been that day said would be of much use to the Select Committee if the Council should see fit to allow the Bill to be read.

The objections and remarks made by the hon'ble members had referred in the main to the constitution of the governing bodies under the Bill, to its taxation clauses, and to the sections regarding education. He (Mr. Bernard) would first refer to what had been said on these three main heads, and he would afterwards address himself to the remarks and questions made on points of detail. It must be remarked that the hon'ble member who opened the debate (Mr. Bayley) had expressed an apprehension that the magistrate would have too little power in the towns of his district; that the non-official majority of two to one would outweigh him and outvote him; and that the opposition might prevent necessary improvements being made, and might prohibit taxation being levied. This was one view; but another hon'ble member (Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore) had taken an opposite view: he had avowed his belief that the magistrate would have too full and too wide powers in any municipality, and that the non-official commissioners of a town would in reality exercise very little influence over the affairs of their town. Now he (Mr. Bernard) did not mean to say that the truth necessarily lay midway between two extremes, but the avowal of these two opposite views might to some extent show that the proposals of the Bill were moderate; and he would assure the Council that the framers of the Bill had at any rate intended to strengthen the hands of the commissioners, and to arrange for the representatives of the town managing, to use the Hon'ble Degumber Mitter's words, the affairs of their town themselves. The hon'ble member last named had drawn a somewhat sad picture of the constitution of society in a Bengal town; he had said that in Bengal townsmen would not be found who would be active and independent municipal commissioners; men would not have the courage or the wish to oppose a magistrate if they thought him wrong; and so in reality the supposed municipal government would be a farce. He (Mr. Bernard) was glad to have heard the hon'ble member say that such views would not be approved by the hon'ble speaker's educated fellow countrymen. Mr. Bernard would hope that on this particular point the educated men who would differ from the hon'ble member might be better informed than the hon'ble member himself. He would say that at any rate this Council had, in the person of the hon'ble member himself, a specimen of a Bengali gentleman who would, without fear and without favor, express opinions which might perhaps be distasteful to the official members of the Council. He hoped that in Bengali towns municipal commissioners might be found, who would not forego honest opinions merely because the magistrate disapproved those opinions. He felt sure that men of that stamp did exist, and he trusted their number would increase.

Much had been said that day regarding the various forms of taxation which the Bill permitted municipal bodies to adopt. One hon'ble member (Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore) had said that these multiform taxes would frighten the people; that they would and must result in increased burdens, which could hardly be borne in these days, when impost had followed on impost, and the people could endure no more. So far as he (Mr. Bernard) could remember, the only new tax imposed during the last ten years was the income tax in its various shapes, though doubtless municipal taxation had increased. But he would submit that whatever might have been the small increase in the weight of municipal

taxation, that increase was not nearly in proportion to the rise which had occurred in the rents, in the price of produce, in the wages of labor, and in the cost of all commodities. He would ask leave again to point out that the Bill proposed only two new forms of taxation, viz. the tax on processions, and the octroi tax; it by no means bound or even asked municipal bodies to adopt more of these taxes than they liked. He was glad to find that the members of the Council were on the whole favorable to levying a small license tax on processions; he regarded the criticism of the hon'ble member opposite (Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore) as entirely just, when he said that the meaning of the word "ceremonies" in section 78 ought to be defined; he said that as the words stood—a dinner party, a *darbar*, or a dance might be liable to license tax; and this was not the intention of the framers. He (Mr. Bernard) made no doubt but that if the Bill were referred to a Select Committee, the Committee would be able either to define "ceremonies," or else to exempt ceremonies from taxation, and to make the section refer to street processions only. He quite acknowledged that the octroi tax was at present foreign to Lower Bengal; and that this particular form of taxation could not be applied to the straggling towns which were like long drawn-out-villages on the banks of Bengal rivers. But, as one hon'ble member (Mr. Bayley) had said, there were towns in Behar more like the towns of Northern India, and to some of these towns octroi duties might perhaps be applicable. One of the hon'ble members for commerce (Mr. Robinson) had pointed out that, in effect, the several municipal taxes, if ever they existed in the same town, might become cumulative; but the hon'ble member went on to say that such cumulative taxation would befall the rich only. He (Mr. Bernard) was free to admit that it might happen that a rich man at Alipore might have to pay carriage-tax, and that he might indirectly pay house-tax, and that perhaps in very occasional cases the same man might have to pay the tax on trades and callings. But any person so circumstanced would be a rich man, and he would probably not pay more than he ought fairly, with reference to his property and his means to contribute to municipal necessities. So far as he had been able to judge, the risk with all municipal taxation in India was lest the poor should have too large a burden, and the rich should get off too cheaply. If, when the Select Committee and the Council at the settlement of the clauses came to consider these several forms of taxation, they considered that the taxes were too many, then of course it would be open to the Council to disallow any one or more of the proposed alternative taxes. But he would again remind the Council that all these taxes were permissive and not obligatory.

He was particularly rejoiced to find that nearly all the members who had referred to the matter, approved the proposal permitting municipal funds to be spent on educational purposes. He thought that if any such provision became law, a very great point would have been gained. One hon'ble member (Mr. Bayley) had expressed a fear that perhaps municipal commissioners might make the mistake of devoting funds paid in part by the poor to the maintenance of colleges and high education; and that they might not provide sufficiently for the education of the poor. So far as he had been able to understand these matters, there was no ground for apprehension that local money would be spent too freely on colleges. It was only in last year's report that one of the most experienced inspectors remarked that out of the nineteen Government and Missionary Colleges in Bengal, only one, the Madrissa College in Hooghly, was in any way supported by private endowments or local subscriptions. Natives of Bengal when they wished to help education—and it must gladly be admitted that they did in some parts of Bengal contribute most liberally—established or endowed English schools of the middle and lower classes, and occasionally maintained vernacular schools. He (Mr. Bernard) anticipated that if this part of the Bill became law in any thing like its present shape, the result would be that municipal commissioners of towns would make grants to English and vernacular schools; and that in the rural municipalities the *punchayuts* would aid *patshalas* or village schools. A question had been put by an hon'ble member (Mr. Dampier) whether the Bill contemplated that grants-in-aid should continue to be given under the present rules, or whether such grants would cease.

He (Mr. Bernard) had no right or title to speak in behalf of the Government, or to say what Government would do. He was aware that the existing grant-in-aid rules were at present being remodelled, and apprehended that Government could not pledge itself, for a number of years to come, as to the particular policy it would adopt in regard to grants-in-aid. But he believed that the Government of Bengal had formerly, did now, and would for the future grant all the money it could spare to aid schools of whatever calibre, either in towns or in villages.

The hon'ble member on his right (Mr. Bayley) had made what seemed a very just criticism on section 18 of the Bill, which provided for vesting public dispensaries, schools, and such like institutions in the municipal commissioners. The hon'ble member pointed out that no means were provided for compelling the commissioners to do their duty by such institutions. It seemed to him (Mr. Bernard) that it would be expedient, if this section were to stand, to add a clause, something like that contained in section 222, providing that on a presentation from a certain number of rate-payers to the effect that the commissioners had neglected or abused their trust in regard to any of the institutions mentioned, the magistrate might inquire, and, if necessary, intervene to preserve such institutions from neglect or misuse.

The only other criticism of the hon'ble member (Mr. Bayley) referred to the control, appointment, or dismissal of the Town Police. It would be observed by the Council that the Bill provided that no policeman above the grade of an ordinary constable should be dismissed without the approval of the magistrate, but undoubtedly in respect of all other matters the Town Police would, as the Bill stood, be under the orders of the municipal commissioners, and the district superintendent of police would have little control over them. Perhaps the Select Committee might see fit to modify in some degree their provisions, so far as the dismissal and discipline of the Town Police went; but he (Mr. Bernard) strongly thought that the commissioners, or a sub-committee of their body, would be the best authority for selecting and appointing Town Police; the commissioners would know the right men, they would choose their own towns-people—men who would know who were bad characters, and who would know what steps should be taken to repress and detect crime. At present it often happened that outsiders, up-country men, people who know nothing of a town, were appointed to be its police.

The hon'ble member who represented the suburbs of Calcutta (Moulvie Abdool Lateef) had recommended that the present Bill should not be applied to the suburbs of Calcutta, and had suggested that another short Bill should be introduced providing for such matters as might be wanted in the suburbs. It undoubtedly was the case that the suburbs were a very large and important municipality; that, as the Hon'ble Member had said, its residents were numerous and opulent; but so far as he (Mr. Bernard) had learned, the people and the Commissioners of the suburbs did not take in their municipal affairs anything like the warm interest taken by the Justices in Calcutta affairs; and in this respect, at any rate, the suburban municipality differed widely from the Calcutta corporation. Still he felt sure that any representation which the suburban corporation might make on the subject of the Bill, or their exemption therefrom, would receive full consideration at the hands of the select committee.

In conclusion, Mr. Bernard assured the Council that, so far as the wishes of the mover of the Bill went, the hon'ble member Mr. Robinson's wishes would be fulfilled; and the natives of towns all over Bengal would have the fullest opportunity of expressing their opinion on the Bill, for a translation would be circulated to scores of municipal bodies and to British and Native officers all over the country.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said that he thought he might follow the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill in expressing his gratification that this very important measure now submitted to the Council had been received by the members of the Council, including the non-official members, who had addressed

as to-day in a manner, upon the whole, extremely favorable. He was himself especially gratified to observe that the members had expressed themselves in a manner which led him to hope that they would accept more or less completely the plan which this Bill laid down, in respect to the very important subject of education. The proposal which in certain clauses of this Bill was submitted to the Council in respect to education was what he believed he might call a very moderate compromise of a very difficult subject. He had been particularly glad to hear that the hon'ble member to the right (Baboo Digumber Mitter) approved of the proposal in that respect almost to the full. Other hon'ble members had also expressed themselves in a way more or less completely favorable to the views of the Government, and His Honor was sanguine that after these clauses of the Bill had passed through the hands of the committee, the Council would arrive at a conclusion that would be satisfactory to moderate and reasonable men all over the country.

He observed that very divergent views had been expressed upon the subject of municipal self-government by the hon'ble members who had addressed the Council. The hon'ble member on his right (Mr. Robinson) had taken the sanguine view which His Honor had taken, viz. that municipal institutions were indigenous to the country, and we might hope that in a country where those institutions were in full working order, long before we had them in the British Isles, in a country in some respects that of their birth, such institutions might flourish and rapidly succeed. The hon'ble member on the right (Baboo Digumber Mitter), on the other hand, had taken what he might term a gloomy view of the political position and the social characteristics of his countrymen. His Honor believed that another hon'ble gentleman (Mr. Wyman) had placed the truth very fairly when he said that no doubt such institutions had at one time existed in the country, and that there was equally little doubt that they had now, for the most part, died out. From these observations His Honor would draw a very moderate conclusion, that institutions which had existed in this country and which had died out might yet be revived with care and trouble. He admitted that there was a great deal of truth in the observations of the hon'ble member on the right (Baboo Digumber Mitter); but when His Honor looked back to the history of this great country, he could not despair of ultimate success. His belief was that these self-governing institutions were a very essential part in the very constitution of the Aryan race. He was sanguine that the difficulties which the hon'ble member so vividly depicted might be overcome, and that we should eventually arrive at efficient self-government. He admitted that we could not arrive with one bound at such a state of things; he could not hope to see the system brought to perfection; but at any rate he thought that we might make a beginning, and that our successors might arrive, at a future time, at a very favorable result. On one point he could not altogether agree to what had been said by the hon'ble member on this subject. His Honor understood the hon'ble member's argument to be that these municipal institutions must be the out come and not the precursor of free political institutions. Now His Honor's view was otherwise. He believed that human nature was so constituted that what was called patriotism and public spirit were the natural accompaniments and result of self-government. He believed that while institutions were despotic and you had no self-government you could not have public spirit and you could not have patriotism. On the other hand he believed that if you made a beginning of self-government, public spirit, and patriotism would result. Men who accepted office on behalf of their countrymen would know that their actions would be watched and judged by those for whom they acted, and his hope and belief was that public spirit would result. How far that would be effected remained to be seen, but he trusted that the members of the Council would agree with him that it was desirable to make the attempt.

The hon'ble member who spoke early in the debate (Rajah Jotendro Mohun Tagore) alluded to the fear which was spreading about the country that we were daily increasing the burdens of the people. Now His Honor thought that it had been explained by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill that

whatever the Bill did, it did not increase the compulsory burdens of the people to any great extent. In fact, His Honor might say that the very moderate provision for education was the only provision in respect to which any new and increased obligation was imposed. The taxation under the Bill, as had been so often said, was in its various forms alternative, and it was only the wish of Government to give to municipalities a choice of the form of taxation which they preferred. That surely was not an increased obligation, but an increased freedom which we afforded to them. It was quite true that municipalities would have under this Bill new responsibilities and new duties. In point of fact, the result in some cases might no doubt be to some extent to increase taxation; but his view was that such increased taxation would not result from increased obligations imposed upon them by the Government, but would be the outcome of new wants, new knowledge, and of new demands for things to which they had not been accustomed, but which the people of the country would gradually ask to obtain at their own expense. It was not the case that the burdens imposed by the Government would be extended, but the Bill would give the people power to extend their own burdens if they wished to do so. Government had no wish to shift the burden which was now borne by itself. By no means. They said—"The power of the Government is limited, the means of the Government are limited, the finances are limited. We are unable to give many great improvements which the progress of the age demands. We can do so much, and we can give you so much money; if you wish to have more you must arrange for the means to do more, you must tax yourselves, as the people of all civilized countries tax themselves; and the opportunity to do so, is the opportunity we now ask the Council to give you."

On the subject of education he might say, that perhaps the word "compulsory," looking to the sense in which the word was used in England, was a somewhat dangerous word, because it implied not that municipalities should be compelled to provide means of education, but that the people were compelled to go to school. Now that was by no means intended. We did not seek to press education to that extent. We felt (as an hon'ble member had said) that it was not desirable to educate men beyond their position in life. He thought that the lower class of education given in *patshalas* to the agricultural population was most fitted for the people of that class of society. The hon'ble member on the left (Mr. Dampier) had thoroughly explained the views of the Government when he said that the object of the Government was simply to do that which was now being attempted to be done in England, that is to say, "if you provide the means of education with such aid as Government can give you, well and good; if you do not, then we will come in and require you to do so." We hoped that the voluntary provision of schools would be the ordinary rule, and the general arrangement throughout the country. And it would only be in exceptional cases, and where there were absolutely no means of education available, that the compulsory clauses of the Bill would be put in force.

His Honor thought that the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill had sufficiently alluded to the objection in regard to section 18 of the Bill by which certain buildings were to be made over to the charge of municipalities. That was a provision which the select committee might with advantage narrowly scrutinize. It was not the object of the Government to turn over to municipalities the cost of buildings at present maintained by the Government. The object was to enter into arrangements with municipalities with regard to certain institutions towards which they contributed, and the management of which they might very fairly claim.

There had been a good many observations made upon the subject of the octroi duties. Perhaps it was desirable that he should put his view on this subject broadly before the Council. He believed there was in Bengal a sort of horror, if he might so term it, of anything that was Punjabee: it was like shaking a red flag in the face of a bull, to quote anything as coming from the Punjab. He would therefore ask the Council to enter upon this subject without prejudice in respect to this octroi system being supposed to come from the Punjab. The Bill in no respect proposed to compel any municipality to adopt the

system of octroi duties. All that the Bill said was, that amongst what he had described as a variety of good things, of which they might take their choice was the system of octroi duties. Although there was in Bengal a prejudice against this system of duties which was supposed to come from the Punjab, he must assert that it was the unvarying experience of various provinces in India as well as in many countries of Europe, that no municipal tax was so permanently popular as octroi duties. Very many municipalities in different parts of the country who had objected to the house tax and other more direct taxes, had rushed, if we might say so, to these octroi duties as a relief. Under favorable circumstances they were able to raise a revenue which was hardly felt. The system, as experience had proved, was liable to be attended with a good many evils. Indeed, the abuses which might attend a careless imposition and levy of these duties were so great that the system had called forth from the Government of India the remarks which had been read to the Council, but these remarks were intended to improve, not to put down the system; most of these evils resulted from the fact that the system was too popular. Municipalities in some parts of the country had too universally resorted to that system. He freely admitted that under many circumstances it was attended with many difficulties, and that to certain municipalities it was not properly fitted; but to the circumstances of many others it was extremely well suited. It was a question between direct and indirect taxation, and as indirect taxes were the more popular in the general taxation of the country, it was the same in respect to municipal taxes. Where the circumstances of a municipality were really suitable, he thought it was better to impose indirect taxes of this sort with due care and caution than to tax the people by those direct methods to which they were extremely averse. For the exercise of due caution the Government would be responsible, and His Honor must express his strong hope that the Council would give this subject an unbiassed consideration, and not throw out this mode of taxation without having very fully and carefully considered the matter.

As regards the police there was a good deal of truth and justice in the remarks which had fallen from the Hon'ble Member who opened the debate. No doubt we had at present gone too far to one extreme—that was to say, in giving to the District Superintendent of Police complete and exclusive power over the police of towns; on the other hand the Bill removed the town police so absolutely from the control of the police authorities, that we might be going to the other extreme. He hoped therefore that the Council would carefully consider and manipulate these provisions.

Then he came to the remarks of the hon'ble member on the right (Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore) in regard to the despotic character of these institutions. The hon'ble member seemed to suppose that the magistrate would as a rule override the committee, and that the Government would rule over the magistrate, and that the municipalities would be but little despotisms after all. Perhaps it was scarcely necessary that His Honor should take up the time of the Council in answering that assertion, because the objection had been well answered by the hon'ble gentleman on the left (Mr. Dampier), who asked whether the hon'ble member really thought that it would be better if there were no municipalities, and the municipal government were directly administered by the Government officials. His Honor thought that it was entirely a question for the Select Committee to whom this Bill would be referred to carry out, in any way that seemed to them best, the declared intention of the Government in introducing this Bill, viz. that these municipalities should not be shams but realities. If it appeared to the Select Committee and the Council that too great powers were being given to the magistrate, they could lessen those powers: if it was considered that the mode prescribed for the exercise of the magistrate's powers was such as was really unfavorable to the development of self-government, it was free to the Committee and the Council to alter it. His Honor's object was clearly and distinctly to give to municipalities real self-government, and not to make them sham institutions, and he trusted that before the Bill emerged from the committee it would be put into such a shape that that object would be obtained.

Then as regards small municipalities, which were dealt with under the provisions of Part XII of the Bill, the same Hon'ble Member had observed that he did not understand the provision in respect to chakran lands, and it was therefore necessary that His Honor should offer some further explanation upon the subject. He might say that it was not intended that there should be two chowkeedars where there was now one; that one should be provided from the chakran lands and the other by the municipality. The object was simply to avoid altogether the whole question of chakran lands and to leave it for treatment as a separate and distinct subject. The effect of the bill as it stood would then be this. These small municipalities were bound to see that a chowkeedar was maintained, who should receive a salary of not less than Rs. 3 a month. If the chowkeedar received Rs. 2 a month from the chakran lands, then the municipality would supplement his salary by giving an additional rupee; and where there were no chakran lands the Bill would come into full force and effect as regards the maintenance of chowkeedars by the municipality; but the minimum pay of the chowkeedar should be such that together with anything received from chakran lands he should receive not less than Rs. 3 a month. His Honor might say, while on this subject of small municipalities, that the Government did not attempt to make them at once complete municipalities, but simply to make a small beginning towards such institutions. It was not proposed to impose upon them the obligations which were proposed to be imposed on the larger municipalities. Although it was desirable that village *patshalas* should exist in order that the agricultural classes should have such education as would enable them to understand their affairs, still he believed that as the Bill stood it was not intended to provide that in these small village municipalities the maintenance of *patshalas* should be made compulsory, nor were there any other compulsory clauses in respect to these municipalities, except as to the chowkeedar. Government wished only to make it optional with these municipalities to keep up *patshalas* and also to provide if they wished drinking water, and one or two other things for which there were frequent cries from rural villages.

Then we came to the remarks of the hon'ble member on the left (Moulvie Abdool Luteef) with regard to the suburbs of Calcutta. His Honor might say that the object was to make this a large and comprehensive Bill, and to make its provisions such as to fit it for both large and small municipalities; but he believed there was a good deal in the wants and constitution of the suburban municipality for which provision was not made by this Bill. It would be for the Select Committee to consider whether the Bill could be made suited to the demands of the suburban municipality. He had no doubt that the Select Committee would be able to give a good opinion on that subject and would be able to guide the Council in the matter.

It had also been suggested that if we were to offer to municipalities a system of election, it would be better to begin in the large municipality of Calcutta. His Honor was not quite sure that a very large municipality was the one which we should select to make a beginning of the system of election; but if any hon'ble member should lay before the Council a scheme by which it might be possible to establish a representative municipality for the people of Calcutta, His Honor would be ready to give it the most favorable consideration. He was conscious that at present the constitution of the Calcutta municipality was not in all respects the strongest and best that could be devised. He felt that the burden of responsibility was shared between the Government and the Justices in a somewhat uncertain way. The Justices were appointed by the Government, and to a certain extent they relieved the Government of the responsibility of the municipal government of the town, but to a certain extent the Government which appointed those justices felt that it was responsible for the good government of the town. He should be very glad if a system could be devised by which we could have ward representatives and a municipal government could be formed by the people who should be the real representatives of the town itself.

His Honor thought that the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill had satisfactorily met the doubts entertained by the hon'ble member (Mr. Dampier)

in regard to the position in which the Government would stand as to grants-in-aid for education. The Bill was not intended to discontinue the system of grants-in-aid. On the other hand, as the system of education extended, as the demands on account of education increased, the means available to us for the purposes of education did not extend, and Government could not pledge itself to give fresh grants-in-aid to the same degree and under the same rules as at present. His hope was that it would be possible to avoid any material diminution of the present grants-in-aid, but he was not in a position to say that Government could increase the present expenditure in that respect. Government must be trusted to devote the funds now available for the purpose honestly and fairly, but we could not pledge ourselves to any particular administrative rules on the subject.

His Honor thought that there were no other subjects in connection with this Bill upon which he need trouble the Council with any further remarks at present. He would merely say that, taking on the whole the favorable view which the Council had taken of this Bill, he trusted that it would prove to be an efficient measure. If the Council should pass the Bill we should try to do our best in the hope that in the course of time the institutions which we were now endeavouring to foster would develop themselves more and more, and that a few years later we should have an immense amount of self-government throughout the country.

The motion was then agreed to; and on the motion of Mr. Bernard the Bill was referred to a select committee consisting of Mr. Dampier, Mr. Bayley, Moulvy Abdool Luteef, Mr. Wyman, Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore, and the mover.

Mr. Dampier said he thought more satisfaction would be given to the native community if Baboo Digumber Mitter's name were added to the select committee, and he would therefore make a motion to that effect. The motion was agreed to.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 20th instant.

Rainfall, Weather and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather and State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of the Lower Provinces of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending 20th January 1872.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station, in inches.	Character of the weather in the district, as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
		1872.				
1	Bhaugulpore	Jan. 20th	·1	Favorable	Cold weather crops much improved by the shower.	
2	Monghyr	" 20th	0·2	Cloudy	Cold weather crops favorable.	
3	Purneah	" 13th	0	Seasonable	Generally good; pulses and mustard are ripening. Rain wanted.	
4	Rajmehal	" 20th	.....	Cloudy, with few drops of rain, and cold.	Mustard promising; til and ratur suffering from want of rain.	
5	Deoghur	" 20th	.....	Healthy and cold	Satisfactory.	
6	Nya Doomka	" 20th	0	Cold and dry	Mustard not good; very little if anything else on the ground.	
7	Godda	" 20th	* Slight shower.	Very cold	Mustard seed, grain, and other cold weather crops very poor; slightly improved by the rain.	No rain gauge.
8	Pakour	" 20th	.....	Cloudy and cold.	Rice nearly gathered; mustard and other crops favorable.	
9	Jamtarra	" 20th	.....	Cold and cloudy	Mustard seed suffering from want of rain. There are no other crops.	
10	Patna	" 20th	.....	Fine	Rubbee crop is promising.	
11	Gya	" 20th	0·2	Fine	Rice reaped; spring crops promise well.	
12	Chumparun	" 20th	Light shower.	Cloudy and foggy, & nipping cold mornings & evenings.	Mustard being gathered; other spring crops good; rain has done good to the crops.	
13	Sarun	" 20th	0	Cloudy and unsettled.	Rubbee crops generally excellent; peas, mustard, and barley promising; poppy backward.	
14	Shahabad	" 20th	·2	Cloudy and chilly	Winter crops promising.	
15	Tirhoot	" 20th	.....	Fair and foggy	Rubbee promising.	
16	Rajshahye	" 20th	.....	Cold and cloudy	Rubbee flourishing.	
17	Bograh	" 20th	.....	Cloudy and sharp wind.	Satisfactory.	
18	Dinagepore	" 20th	·3	Misty, cloudy, and very cold.	Generally favorable.	
19	Maldah	" 20th	.....	Fair	Good.	
20	Moorshedabad	" 20th	.....	Fair	Mulberry, indigo, and most cold weather crops good.	
21	Purbna	" 20th	.....	Fine and seasonable.	Good.	
22	Rungpore	" 20th	0	Slightly rainy	Most crops gathered; fair average; mustard good.	
23	Burdwan	" 20th	.....	Fair, cool, and dry	Favorable. Winter crops in Cutwa require rains.	
24	Bancoorah	" 20th	.....	Cool	Cold weather crops growing well.	
25	Beerbhoom	" 20th	.....	Cool and clear	Cold weather crops suffering from want of rain.	
26	Hooghly	" 20th	.....	Clear	Rice reaped; cold weather crops good.	
27	Howrah	" 20th	.....	Favorable	Satisfactory.	
28	Midnapore	" 20th	.....	Fair	Good.	
29	Nuddea	" 20th	.....	Dry and seasonable.	Not very good on the whole.	
30	Jessore	" 20th	.....	Fine	Good.	
31	24-Pergunnahs	" 20th	·1	Good	Good. Paddy mostly gathered.	
32	Dacca	" 20th	.....	Seasonable	Good.	
33	Backergunge	" 20th	0	Sunny	Good; about three-fourths gathered.	
34	Furraddipore	" 20th	.....	Fair and cold	Good.	
35	Mymensingh	" 20th	.....	Fair	Good.	
36	Sylhet	" 13th	.....	Good	Very good.	Cholera, which partially affected the south, is disappearing.

N ^o .	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station, in inches.	Character of the weather in the district, as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
		1872.				
37	Cachar	Jan. 13th	0.2	Fair	Winter crops insignificant; other crops good.	
38	Chittagong	" 13th	0.4	Fine and cool	Very favorable.	
39	Noakhally or Bulloah	" 13th	0.6	Fair	Good.	
40	Tipperah	" 13th	0.2	Fair	The showers will do some harm to mustard crop.	
41	Hill Tracts of Chittagong.	" 13th	0.5	Rainy and foggy	Mustard crops good.	
42	Cuttack.					
43	Balasore	" 20th	0	Fine	Spring crops good.	
44	Pooree	" 13th	.....	Seasonable	No rain for cold weather crops. No change in prospects since last week. Exportation to Ganjam continues.	
45	Hazareebaugh	" 20th	0.1	Seasonable	Much improved by the late rain.	
46	Lohardugga	" 19th	0	Cloudy	Spring crops in Palamow good, but want rain; elsewhere poor.	
47	Maunbhoom	" 20th	.....	Fine	Eight annas loss in dhan, six annas in rubbee crop, and ten annas in til, mustard, and other oil seeds, for want of rain.	
48	Singhbhoom.					
49	Durrung	" 13th	.....	Cold and foggy	Paddy and pulse reaped; sugar-cane better than in previous years; mustard good.	
50	Nowgong	" 13th	.....	Fair and cold	Paddy reaped; spring crops promising.	
51	Seesaugor	" 13th	0.5	Very cold, pleasant, and healthy.	Crops good; they are being reaped.	
52	Kamroop	" 13th	.....	Cold and dry	Salce crops favorable.	
53	Luckimpore	" 13th	0.3	Fair	Satisfactory.	
54	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.					
55	Naga Hills	" 8th	.....	Cool and pleasant, but damp and unhealthy in the plains.	Crops being gathered; cotton crop is remarkably good this year. Nagas of the upper ranges have commenced bringing in the new rice.	
56	Julpigoree	" 20th	0	Very cold and cloudy.	Highland rice totally lost; lowland below average for want of rain; mustard being gathered.	
57	Gowalparah	" 13th	.....	Mornings foggy, days clear and pleasant.	No alteration in the state and prospects of the crops.	
58	Garo Hills	" 13th	.....	Fair	No crops on the ground.	
59	Darjeeling	" 20th	0	Fair and healthy	Wheat and barley of the hills good; mustard and pulses in the terai promising; rice reaped.	
60	Cooch Behar.					

N. B.—The columns of the districts from which returns have not been received remain blank.

Published for general information.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 23rd January 1872.

R. H. WILSON,
Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

DIVISIONS.	Stations.	Rain from 1st to 7th Jan. 1872.	Rain from 8th to 14th Jan. 1872.	RAIN FROM 1ST JANUARY 1872		REMARKS.
				Inches.	Up to date.	
CUTTACK.	Cuttack { Telegraph Office ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	{ Jail ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	False Point ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Jajipore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Kendraparah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Jugutsingapore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Sambulpore ...	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	Balasore ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Bhuddruck ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Poorce ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
HOYA NAGPORE.	Khoordab ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Hazareebaugh { Jail ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	{ Dispensary ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Burhee ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Puchumba ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Ranchee ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Palainow ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Purulia ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Gobindpore ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Chyebassa ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
PATNA.	Patna (Bankipore) ...	0.80	ditto	0.80	ditto.	
	Dinapore { Jail ...	0.63	ditto	0.63	ditto.	
	{ Cantonment ...	0.60	ditto	0.60	ditto.	
	Behar ...	0.16	Not received	0.16	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Barh ...	0.50	ditto	0.50	ditto.	
	Gya ...	0.14	Nil	0.14	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Sherghotty ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Nowadah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Arungabad ...	0.08	Not received	0.08	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Chumparun ...	Not received	ditto	...	...	
BRAHMPUR.	Bettiah ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Chuprah ...	0.80	Nil	0.80	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Sewan ...	0.54	Not received	0.54	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Mozufferpore ...	0.30	Nil	0.30	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Durbhangah ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Seetamarree ...	0.50	Nil	0.50	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Taipore ...	2.20	ditto	2.20	ditto.	
	Mudhubani ...	0.22	Not received	0.22	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Hajipore ...	0.38	Nil	0.38	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Arrah ...	0.54	ditto	0.54	ditto.	
BRAHMPUR.	Buxar ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Saxserain ...	0.08	Nil	0.08	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Bhubhooh ...	0.50	ditto	0.50	ditto.	
	Benares ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Bhangulpore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Mudheypoorah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Banka ...	0.36	ditto	0.36	ditto.	
	Soopool ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Monghyr ...	0.02	ditto	0.02	ditto.	
	Jamooie ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
BRAHMPUR.	Begoozerai ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Deoghur ...	0.03	Nil	0.03	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Jamtara ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Rajmehal ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Pakour ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Nya-Doomka ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Purneah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Kishengunge ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Arraooah ...	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	Rampore Beaulah ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
RAJSHAHY.	Natore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Bogran ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Dinapore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Salda ...	0.05	Not received	0.05	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Berhampore ...	Nil	0.04	0.04	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Jungipore ...	0.06	Nil	0.06	ditto.	
	Lalbagh ...	Nil	0.11	0.11	ditto.	
	Jamooakandi ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Pubna ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Serajunge ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
BURDWAN.	Rangpore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Bhowanigunge ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Titalya ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Burdwan ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Cutwa ...	ditto	0.12	0.12	ditto.	
	Oulna ...	Not received	0.02	0.02	ditto.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Bood-Bood ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Bancoorah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Raneegunge ...	ditto	0.15	0.15	ditto.	
	Sooree ...	0.02	0.05	0.07	ditto.	
BURDWAN.	Hooghly ...	Nil	0.50	0.50	ditto.	
	Serampore ...	ditto	0.16	0.16	ditto.	
	Jehansabad ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Howrah ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Midnapore ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Contai { Dy. Collr.'s Office ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	{ Exa. Engr.'s Office ...	ditto	1.00	1.00	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Gurbetta ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Tamluk ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	...	...	...	...	...	

DIVISIONS.	Stations.	Rain from 1st to 7th Jan. 1872.	Rain from 8th to 14th Jan. 1872.	RAIN FROM 1st JANUARY 1872.		REMARKS.
				Inches.	Up to date.	
PRESIDENCY.	Kishnaghur	Not received	Not received	...	...	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Bongong	ditto	ditto	...	...	
	Ranaghat	ditto	ditto	...	...	
	Meherpore	ditto	ditto	...	...	
	Choodangah	ditto	ditto	...	...	
	Kooshita	Nil	Nil	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Jessore	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Khoolnah	Not received	Nil	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Jenidah	ditto	Not received	...	...	
	Nurail	ditto	ditto	...	...	
	Magoorah	ditto	ditto	...	...	
	Bagirhaut	ditto	ditto	...	...	
	Saugor Island	Nil	0.02	0.02	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Calcutta	ditto	0.22	0.22	ditto.	
	Alipore { Hospital	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	{ Jail	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Barrackpore	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Dum-Dum	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Buraset	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Satkherah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
Dacca.	Basseerhaut	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Diamond Harbour	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Barripore	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Dacca { Telegraph Office	ditto	0.51	0.51	14th Jan. 1872.	
	{ Jail	ditto	0.05	0.05	ditto.	
	Burrisaul	ditto	0.37	0.37	ditto.	
	Dowlat Khan	ditto	Not received	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Perozepore	ditto	0.37	0.37	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Madaripore	ditto	0.70	0.70	ditto.	
	Furzedpore	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Goalundo	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Mymensing	ditto	Nil	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Jamalpor	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Atteah	ditto	ditto	...	...	
CHITTAGONG.	Kishoregunge	Nil	ditto	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Sylhet	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Cachar	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Hylakandy	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Koyah	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	Chittagong { Telegraph Office	Nil	0.40	0.40	14th Jan. 1872.	
	{ Jail	ditto	0.44	0.44	ditto.	
	Cox's Bazar	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Rangamatee Hill	Nil	ditto	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Noakhully	ditto	0.59	0.59	14th Jan. 1872.	
COCHIN BEHAR.	Tipperah	ditto	Not received	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Brahmanbariah	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	Akyah	Nil	0.10	0.10	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Cooch Behar	ditto	Not received	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Buxa	ditto	Nil	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Goalparah	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Dhoohee	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	Tura (Garó Hills)	Nil	ditto	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Darjeeling { Telegraph Office	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	{ Hospital	Nil	Nil	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
ASSAM.	Rungbee	Not received	Not received	...	...	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Julpigoree	ditto	Nil	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Boda	Nil	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Tezpor	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Nowgong	0.40	ditto	0.40	ditto.	
	Mungledye	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Burpettah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Gowhatty	ditto	Nil	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Seebaangor	0.40	Not received	0.40	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Jorehaut	0.10	ditto	0.10	ditto.	
ASSAM.	Golaghat	0.08	ditto	0.08	ditto.	
	Nazeerah	0.10	ditto	0.10	ditto.	
	Debrooghur	0.27	ditto	0.27	ditto.	
	Suddya	0.80	ditto	0.80	ditto.	
	Shillong	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Cherrapunjee	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	Jaowai	ditto	ditto	...	...	
	Sainougoodting	ditto	ditto	...	...	

CALCUTTA,
The 20th January 1872.

HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 14th to 20th January 1872.

STATIONS.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	Barometer reduced to sea-level.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. =100.	WIND.		Rain.	Clouds.	Weather initials.
					Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.			
CALCUTTA.	Jan.											
	14th	10	30.005	30.114	70.7	63.3	63	W by N	...	...	...	b
	14	12	29.985	30.003	75.5	65.0	54	W by N	...	...	...	b
	15th	10	30.117	30.136	69.6	61.0	57	W by N	...	...	...	b
	15	18	30.000	30.018	70.0	63.5	46	S W	...	...	...	b
	16th	10	30.139	30.158	70.6	61.8	57	S W	...	...	...	b
	16	18	29.996	30.014	75.4	63.5	47	E N E	...	...	...	b
	17th	10	30.124	30.143	68.7	61.6	65	E N E	...	...	...	b
	17	16	29.959	29.977	76.0	64.2	48	N N E	...	...	...	b
	18th	10	30.120	30.139	71.7	64.2	62	E N E	...	...	CK	b
SAYOOR ISLAND.	18	16	29.972	29.990	76.0	66.5	58	E N E	...	...	...	b
	19th	10	30.199	30.218	67.0	69.8	64	N E	...	...	CK	b
	19	18	30.072	30.071	74.0	64.5	56	N E	...	...	...	b
	20th	10	30.190	30.209	64.6	58.5	67	N N E	...	...	...	b
	20	16	30.045	30.064	72.5	62.5	53	N N W	...	...	C	b
	14th	10	30.0032	30.0092	71	68	85	N	4.8*	...	KS	b, f
	14	18	30.000	30.006	78	70	65	S W	8.1*	...	...	b, m
	15th	10	30.126	30.132	70	64	70	N N E	6.5*	...	...	b, m
	15	18	30.010	31.016	78	70	65	S W	8.2*	...	...	b, m
	16th	10	30.136	30.142	72	64	62	E N E	4.4*	...	...	b, m
CHITTAGONG.	16	18	30.000	30.006	76	66	56	S W	5.4*	...	...	b, m
	17th	10	30.142	30.149	71	67	80	N	4.2*	...	...	b, m
	17	16	29.976	29.976	79	69	58	W	6.8*	...	...	b, m
	18th	10	30.116	30.122	74	67	67	N N W	4.9*	...	CK, C	b, m
	18	16	29.986	29.992	79	69	58	N	8.4*	...	C	b, m
	19th	10	30.200	30.206	68	62	69	N N E	9.1*	...	C, CK	b, m
	19	16	30.058	30.064	75	66	59	N	16.4*	...	...	b, m
	20th	10	30.196	30.202	68	61	64	N	8.2*	...	...	b
	20	16	29.948	30.054	75	65	55	N N W	7.9*	...	CS	b
	14th	10	29.939	30.033	75	63	47	N N W	5.0*	...	...	b, m
MADRAS.	14	16	29.908	30.002	76	59	30	N	5.1*	...	...	b
	15th	10	30.020	30.115	69	60	56	N	5.4*	...	...	b, m
	15	18	29.910	30.004	76	63	44	W	6.9*	...	...	b
	16th	10	30.022	30.117	72	65	66	N	6.7*	...	...	b, m
	16	18	29.910	30.034	77	68	60	W S W	6.6*	...	...	b
	17th	10	30.001	30.095	77	67	56	S	4.3*	...	...	b
	17	16	29.873	29.967	75	63	47	W S W	5.3*	...	...	b
	18th	10	29.902	30.047	71	65	70	W	3.5*	...	...	b, m
	18	16	29.903	30.000	75	65	55	W	5.9*	...	CK	b, m
	19th	10	30.216	30.311	75	64	51	N	4.1*	...	...	b, m
CUTTACK.	19	16	29.939	30.024	76	62	41	W	5.2*	...	...	b, m
	20th	10	30.062	30.157	72	64	62	N	5.9*	...	...	b, m
	20	16	29.958	30.052	77	63	41	W by S	5.6*	...	...	b, m
	13th	10	30.060	30.090	82	70	53	N E	9*	...	...	bc
	13	16	29.950	29.980	81	69	51	N E by N	10*	...	...	bc
	14th	10	30.048	30.078	81	70	55	N E by E	11*	...	...	bc
	14	16	29.939	29.969	81	69	51	E N E	11*	...	...	bc
	15th	10	30.060	30.090	82	70	52	N E by E	10*	...	...	bc
	15	16	29.953	29.983	81	69	51	E N E	11*	...	...	bc
	16th	10	30.078	30.108	81	70	55	N E by E	6*	...	...	bc
AYYAR.	16	16	29.964	29.994	81	69	51	N E	11*	...	...	bc
	17th	10	30.064	30.094	79	68	54	N N E	8*	...	...	bc
	17	16	Not recd.	Not recd.						...	...	
	18th	10	29.937	29.967	81	70	55	N E by E	11*	...	...	bc
	18	16	30.083	30.113	82	73	60	S W	7*	...	...	bc
	19th	10	29.971	30.001	83	72	56	N E by N	13*	...	...	b
	14th	10	30.027	30.111	73	66	67	N E	1.1*	...	...	fair
	14	18	29.882	29.964	83	66	37	N E	2.8*	...	...	fair
	15th	10	30.029	30.113	75	68	68	N E	1.0*	...	...	fair
	15	16	29.901	29.983	83	66	36	E S E	2.8*	...	...	fair
AYYAR.	16th	10	30.079	30.162	76	68	61	S E	0.8*	...	C, CK	fair
	16	16	29.819	30.001	83	66	36	S E	2.5*	...	...	fair
	17th	10	30.052	30.136	73	68	76	S	0.6*	...	...	fair
	17	16	29.876	29.958	83	68	42	E	2.9*	...	...	fair
	18th	10	30.007	30.090	70	68	64	E N E	0.8*	...	KS	cloudy
	18	16	29.891	29.973	83	70	49	N E	1.8*	...	K, CK	cloudy
	19th	10	30.100	30.193	71	62	57	N E	2.0*	...	C, K	cloudy
	19	16	29.865	29.945	84	68	40	E	2.7*	...	...	fair
	14th	10	30.064	30.086	68	64	79	E N E	1	...	...	b
	14	16	29.940	29.962	77	66	53	W N W	1	...	...	b
AYYAR.	15th	10	30.069	30.091	67	62	74	E N E	1	...	C, CS, CK	b
	15	16	29.960	29.982	77	68	61	S S W	1	...	C	b
	16th	10	30.124	30.146	68	63	74	E	1	...	...	b
	16	18	29.992	30.014	80	69	54	S S W	1	...	...	b
	17th	10	30.001	30.113	70	65	75	N E	1	...	C, CK	b
	17	16	29.954	29.976	79	69	68	W N W	1	...	K, CK	b
	18th	10	30.066	30.088	71	67	80	E	1	...	...	b
	18	16	29.957	29.979	78	69	61	W	1	...	K	b
	19th	10	30.118	30.140	71	65	70	N E	1	...	...	b
	19	16	29.984	30.006	79	70	61	W	1	...	K	b
AYYAR.	20th	10	30.135	30.157	72	64	62	N E	1	...	...	b
	20	16	29.909	30.021	80	70	58	E	1	...	C	b

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA,
The 20th January 1872.HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 15th to 21st January 1872.

Month.	Date.	Mean reduced barometer.	THERMOMETER.			Mean dry bulb.	Mean wet bulb.	Computed mean dew-point.	Mean degree of humidity.	WIND.			Rain.	Moon's phases.	GENERAL REMARKS.
			Highest reading.	Lowest reading.	Max. solar radiation.					Prevailing direction.	Max. pressure.	Daily velocity.			
		Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°			lb	Miles.	In.		
Jan.	15th	30.044	78.0	57.5	124.5	66.7	60.4	55.4	0.69	W by N & S W	...	17.8	...	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from 7 to 11 P.M.
	16th	.055	77.6	56.4	132.0	66.4	60.3	55.4	.69	S W & E N E	...	20.9	...	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from 7 to 11 P.M.
	17th	.030	77.5	58.3	130.8	67.0	61.4	56.9	.71	E by N, N E & N N E	...	35.5	...	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from 7 to 10 P.M.
	18th	.028	78.0	61.0	128.8	70.1	63.9	58.9	.69	N N E, N E & E N E	...	64.3	...	...	Stratoni; cirrocumuli and clear. Slightly foggy at 7 and 8 P.M.
	19th	.103	75.9	60.5	128.2	67.7	61.8	57.1	.70	N E	...	132.6	...	...	Clear and cirrocumuli.
	20th	.110	73.5	56.8	123.8	64.7	58.7	53.9	.70	N E & N N W	...	114.7	...	...	Clear and cirri. Foggy from 8 to 11 P.M.
	21st	.068	76.8	56.5	130.0	65.8	60.4	56.1	.72	N N W, N W & W N W	...	36.0	...	...	Clear and cirri. Foggy at midnight and 1 A.M., and from 7 to 11 P.M.

The mean barometer as likewise the dry and wet bulb thermometer means are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants.—The figures in column 10 represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity.—The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1½ feet, and that of the anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground.—The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of temperature during the past seven days	...	21.6
The max. temperature during the past seven days	...	78.0
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	79.8
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	0.70
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	0.65
		Inches.
The total fall of rain from 15th to 21st	... { by lower rain gauge	Nil
	... { by anemometer gauge	Nil
Ditto ditto average of eighteen previous years	...	0.08
Ditto between the 1st January and the 21st January	...	0.22
Ditto ditto ditto ditto, average of eighteen previous years	...	0.16

Calcutta,
The 23rd January 1872.

GOPKNAUTH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—MAIN LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for last day of December 1871, on 1,280 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.			MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.			Total traffic receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for 1 day ...	12,193	24,981 15 8	2,290 0 3	43,086 0	13,507 11 0	1,238 4 2	3,528 4 5
Or per mile of railway ...	...	19 8 3	1 15 10	.....	10 8 10	0 19 4	2 15 2
For previous 26½ weeks of half-year ...	2,427,470	35,55,474 15 0	325,918 10 9	126,28,356 0	76,63,961 2 0	702,528 17 0	1,028,447 7 9
Total for 26½ weeks ...	2,469,672	35,80,456 14 8	328,208 11 0	126,72,342 0	76,77,458 13 0	703,707 1 2	1,031,975 12 3
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	2,341,002	34,79,250 12 8	318,931 6 6	132,40,503 20	62,30,308 12 5	846,936 12 9	1,165,867 19 3

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—JUBBULPORE LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for last day of December 1871, on 223 miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for 1 day ...	1,102	3,297 6 10	302 5 3	2,585 30	512 15 9	47 0 6	349 5 9
Or per mile of railway ...	...	14 12 7	1 7 1	...	2 4 10	0 4 3	1 11 4
For previous 26½ weeks of half-year ...	115,315½	3,34,858 7 0	30,695 7 2	1,215,004 30	3,27,162 8 9	29,989 18 0	60,685 5 2
Total for 26½ weeks ...	116,417½	3,38,155 13 10	30,997 12 5	1,217,590 20	3,27,075 8 6	30,036 18 6	61,034 10 11
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	96,734½	3,10,098 8 2	28,425 13 11	769,337 30	2,61,366 2 1	23,958 11 3	52,384 5 2

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended last day of December 1871, on 156½ miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week ...	2,711½	2,085 8 3	191 3 5	6,585 20	1,676 13 6	153 14 3	344 17 8
Or per mile of railway ...	17	13 5 3	1 4 5	42 0	10 11 5	0 19 8	2 4 1
For previous 27 weeks of half-year ...	724,650½	4,07,085 9 3	37,310 5 7	1,701,742 6½	6,12,500 1 10	56,165 0 1	93,471 3 8
Total for the half year ...	727,362	4,09,171 1 6	37,507 7 0	1,708,327 26½	6,14,176 15 4	56,308 14 4	93,816 1 4
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—MAIN LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for first 6 days of January 1872, on 1,280 miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the 6 days ...	86,886	1,40,754 9 10	12,902 10 2	716,746 30	4,79,767 15 6	43,978 14 7	56,881 4 9
Or per mile of railway ...	...	109 15 5	10 1 7	...	374 13 1	84 7 2	44 8 9
For previous weeks of half-year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for the period ...	86,886	1,40,754 9 10	12,902 10 2	716,746 30	4,79,767 15 6	43,978 14 7	56,881 4 9
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	89,140½	1,32,508 9 4	12,146 12 5	562,709 20	3,52,081 12 3	32,274 8 3	44,420 15 3
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	103 0 0	9 9 10	...	275 2 9	25 4 6	34 14 4
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	89,140½	1,32,508 9 4	12,146 12 5	562,709 20	3,52,081 12 3	32,274 8 3	44,420 15 3

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—JUBBULPORE LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for first 6 days of January 1872, on 223 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.			MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.			Total traffic receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ d. d.
Total traffic for the 6 days	4,266	12,342 8 9	1,131 8 0	62,845 10	17,803 5 3	1,631 19 5	2,763 7 5
Or per mile of railway ... ..	.....	55 5 7	5 1 6	.....	79 13 4	7 6 4	12 7 10
For previous weeks of half-year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total for the period ...	4,266	12,342 8 9	1,131 8 0	62,845 10	17,803 5 3	1,631 19 5	2,763 7 5
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	6,247½	19,050 1 8	1,747 1 8	20,005 20	8,330 9 9	763 12 10	2,510 14 6
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ... ..	.....	85 7 6	7 16 8	.....	37 5 8	3 8 6	11 5 2
Total to corresponding date of previous year	6,247½	19,050 1 8	1,747 1 8	20,005 20	8,330 9 9	763 12 10	2,510 14 6

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the first 6 days of January 1872, on 156½ miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week ...	27,034½	19,448 7 3	1,782 15 6	85,586 334	19,556 1 1	1,702 12 9	3,575 8 3
Or per mile of railway ...	173	124 4 4	11 7 10	547 0	124 15 4	11 9 1	22 16 11
Total ...	27,034½	19,448 7 3	1,782 15 6	85,586 334	19,556 1 1	1,702 12 9	3,575 8 3
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	28,213	16,170 3 8	1,482 5 5	103,084 22	26,500 9 11	2,438 5 11	3,920 11 4
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	180	103 5 2	9 9 5	659 0	169 15 6	15 11 7	25 1 0
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	28,213	16,170 3 8	1,482 5 5	103,084 22	26,500 9 11	2,438 5 11	3,920 11 4

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 6th January 1872, on 28 miles open.

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week ...	6,789½	999 13 9	99 19 8	12,852 0	392 7 0	34 17 11	145 6 0
Or per mile of railway ...	243	35 11 4	3 11 5	459 0	14 0 3	1 4 11	5 3 7
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	69,835½	10,627 15 3	1,062 15 11	152,992 30	4,828 10 0	482 9	1,768 3 4
Total for 14 weeks ...	76,625	11,927 13 0	1,162 15 7	165,844 30	5,221 1 0	522 2 1	1,684 17 8
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	7,485	11,101 1 0	110 2 1	11,242 0	348 15 0	34 17 11	145 6 0
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	267	39 5 2	3 18 7	401 20	12 7 5	1 4 11	5 3 7
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	76,618½	12,484 3 9	1,248 8 5	158,895 13	5,197 7 3	519 14 11	1,768 3 4

N 05.

of 1872



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1872.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT, separately, on payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

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Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, the 27th January 1872.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *presiding.*

V. H. SCHALCH, Esq.,

H. L. DAMPIER, Esq.,

A. R. THOMPSON, Esq.,

S. C. BAILEY, Esq.,

C. BERNARD, Esq.,

MOULVIE ABDUL LUTEEF, KHAN BAHADOOR,

BARO DIGUMBER MITTER,

B. D. COLVIN, Esq.,

T. M. ROBINSON, Esq.,

F. F. WYMAN, Esq.,

and

RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE, BAHADOOR.

NEW MEMBER.

MR. SCHALCH took the oath of allegiance and the oath that he would faithfully fulfil the duties of his office

CALCUTTA PORT IMPROVEMENT.

MR. BERNARD moved for leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Calcutta Port Improvement Act, being Act V of 1870 passed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in Council. This Act, as the Council would remember, was passed after much discussion a year and a half ago; its effect was to make over the custody of the port of Calcutta and its revenues to the Port Commissioners. In the opinion of all persons qualified to judge, the arrangement then sanctioned by this Council had worked extremely well. The Port Commissioners, so far as the port of Calcutta was concerned, had stepped into the place of the Government; and they certainly had, it was generally believed, done more for the port during the last eighteen months than had been done during a good many previous years. There was one respect, however, in which the Port Commissioners did not, under Act V of 1870, occupy precisely the position which the Government had formerly occupied. Under the old Port Act (XXII of 1855) the East India Company, that is the Indian Government, had been exempted from liability for any injuries or losses which might be caused by default of the Government harbour officers. That provision had not been re-enacted in favor of the Port Commissioners by the recent Port Trust Act; and therefore, by the common-law, the Port Commissioners would be liable to actions on account of loss which might be caused by the occasional carelessness or indiscretion of their officers, or for injuries resulting from any undetected defect in the working, or from such like untoward accidents. From a perusal of the long debates which took place when the Port Trust Bill was considered by this Council, he had not been able to ascertain whether the Council intentionally omitted to re-enact the indemnity clause. Some discussion indeed took place, and an honorable member opposite (Mr. Robinson) spoke regarding the necessity of enforcing the due exercise of care by the Commissioners and their officers in regard to certain duties connected with warehousing goods. But the Bill now proposed did not touch the sections of the Port Trust Act which referred to warehouses; all that was intended was to exempt the Commissioners from liability for the default of harbour officers only. The matter stood just thus: if the Commissioners were to continue liable for such defaults, they would have to maintain high port dues, and they would have to establish an insurance fund to meet occasional demands for compensation, which might arise out of the carelessness of a harbour officer. The Chamber of Commerce had been consulted as to whether they thought this indemnity should or should not be given to the Port Commissioners, and he (Mr. Bernard) asked the Council's permission to read an extract from the Chamber's letter on this point. The then state of the case was so clearly and fully put by the Chamber, that he would, with the permission of the Council, read what they said. Their Secretary wrote:—

"The Commissioners were, as the Committee understand, appointed for the purpose of endeavouring to work the Port of Calcutta more efficiently than heretofore, and, if possible, also with greater economy to the vessels frequenting it. The arrangements so far carried out have resulted in a considerable surplus revenue, in virtue of which a reduction in the dues now levied on shipping might reasonably be expected at no very distant date, and the Committee believe is actually under contemplation by the Commissioners. It is manifest, however, that if a responsibility is to be laid on the Board which did not attach to the Government, in whose hands the management of the port was previously vested, and which may at any time entail a heavy pecuniary loss, the first duty of the Commissioners would be to provide for such contingencies, thereby indefinitely delaying the great desideratum of reduction of charges. The matter is very much, as His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor remarks, one of insurance, and the Committee are decidedly of opinion that ship-owners would prefer continuing to run the amount of risk they have hitherto borne in respect of collision and other accidents than to secure immunity, which it might often be matter of difficulty to enforce, by a continuance of existing heavy dues."

The Chamber of Commerce were, the Council would perhaps consider, better qualified than any one else to give an opinion upon this point.

The Government of Bengal concurred in the Chamber's view, that it would be better for the trade of Calcutta that the Port Commissioners should not be obliged to insure themselves against casual claims of this kind, because such insurance must involve higher port-dues.

He (Mr. Bernard) asked leave to bring in a short Bill to give effect to the views of the Chamber of Commerce, and to re-enact in favor of the Port

Commissioners the indemnity given to the East India Company by section 61 of Act XXII of 1855; such indemnity being against the default of the harbour officers only.

MR. SCHALCH said the circumstances under which it was proposed to introduce this Bill, and the reasons for its introduction, had been so fully explained by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, that there remained little more for him to do than to say that, as he was connected with the body of Port Trust Commissioners, he was in a position to state that their only object and desire was to place themselves in the same position which had been held by the Government when they had charge of the port, so as to enable them to carry out their desire to reduce as soon as possible the heavy charges which were now, as a matter of necessity, levied from the port.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said, he hoped it would be thoroughly and entirely understood by the Council and the public that the object of this Bill was not to change the state of things which had heretofore existed, but simply to maintain that state of things. As had been explained by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, these servants of the Government had been placed in that position that the Government should not be responsible for any negligence or misfeasance committed by them. Now a doubt had been raised as to whether, as servants of the Port Trust Commissioners, they were in the same position as the servants of the Government before the passing of the Act which it was now proposed to amend, and it was proposed to put them in the same position as the servants of the Government. It seemed to him that as the Port Commissioners were not a private body, the proposal was not unreasonable. He had referred the matter to the Chamber of Commerce, who were the guardians of the interests which were represented in this matter, and they had expressed their opinion in favor of maintaining the state of things which existed formerly under the Government. Therefore, as had been explained by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, this Bill had been prepared and laid before the Council.

The motion was agreed to.

MR. BERNARD said, that as the Council had been good enough to grant leave to bring in this Bill, and as the Bill was a very short one, and there was no technical difficulty nor any question of principle involved in the Bill, except the one principle which the Council was prepared to adopt, he would ask His Honor the President to suspend the rules of the Council, that the Bill might be read in Council and referred to a select committee. As no hon'ble members seemed to object to the Bill, perhaps there would be no objection to adopt this course.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said, he did not think it desirable that this Bill should be hurried with anything like unseemly haste through the Council, and his wish and intention would be, that while suspending the rules at this stage of the Bill, nevertheless such time should be given to the public before the Bill was finally passed as ordinarily would be given under the rules. He thought that it would be desirable that this Bill should be referred to a select committee as soon as possible, and published for general information, in order that opportunity should be given to the committee to consider any further questions which might arise in connection with the Port Improvement Act. He thought hon'ble members would agree with him that it was not desirable that the Act should be continually tinkered; and if any other points should arise in connection with this Bill, the committee could, if they thought it right to do so, insert those points in addition to the single point which was now laid before the Council by the Government.

The rules were then suspended, and on the motion of Mr. Bernard, the Bill was read in Council and referred to a select committee, consisting of Mr. Schalch, Mr. Robinson, and the mover, with instructions to report in a fortnight.

JUSTICES' BORROWING POWERS.

MR. BERNARD moved that the Bill to extend the borrowing powers of the Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta, and to provide for the

repayment of municipal debt, be considered. The Bill had, as the Council would remember, been reported upon by a select committee, and its clauses had been settled by this Council. But the Bill had not passed because the Justices of the Peace for Calcutta had moved the hon'ble President to postpone the final passing of the Bill until they should have an opportunity of considering its scope. The letter from the Justices (No. 45 of the 15th instant,) had now been received, and a copy of that letter was to-day, Mr. Bernard believed, in the hands of every member of the Council. The purport of the letter and of its enclosure was to ask that an assurance might be obtained from the Government of India on behalf of the Secretary of State, to the effect that the imperial treasury would advance to the corporation funds to meet any debentures which might fall due. If this were done, the whole debt of Calcutta would eventually become a debt to the Indian Government; and the corporation proposed to set apart two per cent on the total of such debt yearly, and to pay over to the Indian Government the sums so set aside in liquidation of any loans made or hereafter to be made by that Government to the corporation. It was certain that this Council could not bind the Indian Government to any particular course of action in this matter, and even if the Government of India were disposed to grant loans on liberal terms to the Calcutta corporation, such a disposition could not very well be made the foundation for legislation in this Council. As the local Public Works Loan Act, quoted in paragraph 2 of the Justices' letter, stood the Calcutta corporation must take its future loans from the Government of India, unless the Lieutenant-Governor for the time being should see fit to relax this rule under the power conferred upon him by a subsequent section of the Act. So far as the Government of Bengal was at present advised, it did not propose to relax the rules, and the future loans of the Calcutta corporation would probably be contracted from the Indian Government on fairly liberal terms. But it seemed best that this Council should so legislate in the present case as to meet all contingencies; so as to provide for an efficient sinking fund, whether the money was borrowed from the Indian Government or from the outside public. Mr. Bernard trusted the Council might be disposed to concur in this view; the Bill, as settled by the Council four weeks ago, gave full effect to this view. If the Council were pleased to let the Bill stand, Mr. Bernard for his part, and he might perhaps add on the part of Government, did not propose any material alterations in the Bill as then settled.

The Bill provides that the Justices should set aside 2 per cent on the capital sum borrowed, and that the sum so set aside should be devoted to the repayment of debentures or to the formation of a sinking fund. As matters now stood, this arrangement would pay off nearly the whole loan in about forty or forty-two years from the present date. The earliest of the 55 lakhs of debentures mature in the year 1884. Up to the year 1884 then the sinking fund would grow at compound interest, and the tax-payers would pay the full interest on the debentures. From 1884 the Justices for the time being might, if they so decided, reduce the burden on the tax-payers by paying off debentures, and demanding from the tax-payers interest on the reduced loan. The burden on the tax-payers would, it was hoped, be at the same time reduced by the imperial treasury lending money at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to pay off debentures, for the liquidation of which the sinking fund might not suffice. The Bill indeed, as settled by the Council, gave full and precise legal sanction to the arrangement which the Justices had (as described in paragraph 5 of their letter) decided upon, and, he would say, very wisely decided upon for themselves. All that was required to make the Justices' resolution of some years back, and the action taken thereon permanent, was to enact that the sinking fund already accumulated by the Justices should be treated as though it had accumulated under the present Bill; and to this he would move a short amendment to section 3 of the Bill. There was one other point in the enclosures to the Justices' letter to which he might refer, and that was, the proposal to borrow two lakhs more to build a municipal office. The proposal seemed a reasonable and economical proposal; and he had nothing to say against it. But he abstained from asking the Council to sanction any further loan beyond the 30 lakhs sanctioned by the present Bill; because after all, the drainage works in contemplation would not, as explained in the

Justices' letter of the 24th August, cost more than 21½ lakhs, so that there would be ample margin in the 30 lakhs for any permanent structure for a municipal office. The whole question of enforcing on the municipality of Calcutta the duty of paying off, within a reasonable term of years, the funded debt now due from them, was discussed at much length on a previous meeting of this Council. He would submit the opinion that the duty was now to be enforced was not so much in the interest of the debenture-holders, as in the interest of future generations of municipal tax-payers, who, if there were no sinking fund, would inherit a funded debt equal to six or seven years' gross income of the corporation. Mr. Bernard would only add that the Bill, as it was settled by the Council, was a mean, or a compromise between the two proposals; one, that in accordance with the practice of all recent Government loans to the Port Commissioners or to the corporation, the whole should be paid off in thirty-two or in thirty-three years; and the other proposal now made by the Justices, that the loan should be paid off in fifty years. As the Bill now stood, the 55 lakhs loan would be paid off in about forty years' time.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said, he believed that the arrangement that had been made when this Bill was last under consideration was, that the Bill should be published and brought forward again, so that opportunity should be given to hon'ble members to propose any further amendments they might think necessary. He observed, however, that with the exception of the amendment, of which notice was given by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, no other amendment had been proposed; and the Council would therefore proceed to the consideration of the amendment proposed by the hon'ble member.

The motion was then agreed to.

RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE said, he had to make a few observations with regard to the third section of the Bill. The hon'ble member in charge of the Bill had told the Council that as the section stood, the full amount of the municipal debt would be repaid within a period of forty-two years. But it appeared to him (Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore) that if the saving in the way of interest by the investment of the sinking fund in the 4 per cent be taken into calculation, the period for the repayment of the debt would come up to about thirty-two years, or the life-time of one generation. He therefore agreed with the report of the Justices that the repayment of the debt should not be limited to the life-time of one generation, and that it should be extended to the life-time of two generations; for the succeeding generation would profit equally with the present in the benefits of the works which had been undertaken, and which were of a permanent and extensive nature, and consequently it would be hard to require one generation to pay for works that would equally benefit the succeeding generation. The Justices had suggested an arrangement which the Council, he thought, should not sanction; but he thought it just that the period for the repayment of the municipal debt should be extended to two generations, and the percentage to be set aside should therefore be lessened so as to extend the period of repayment to two generations. With this view, he would move that "one-and-a-half" be substituted for "two" in line 5 of section 3. He was fully aware that the Justices at present did lay by a sum of two per cent towards the liquidation of their debt; but when it was taken into consideration that the Justices were about to borrow a further sum of 30 lakhs of rupees, it seemed clear that, under that arrangement, they must either raise the taxation, or put a stop to the execution of any further improvements.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said, with reference to the hon'ble member's proposal, he wished to explain how the matter stood at present. His Honor's own individual view was, that the result of the works which were looked upon as improvements was so precarious, that it would be much more better to follow the prudent course, voluntarily taken by the Justices, in regard to the loans previously contracted by them—a course by which the loans would be paid off in thirty-two or thirty-three years. It might be, and he hoped it would be the case, that some of the grand works undertaken by the Justices would last for two generations; but on the other hand, we knew not only that there were a great many failures, but that the advance of science causes works constructed by

one generation to become comparatively little estimated by the succeeding generation, or perfectly useless to them. Take the instance of the vessels of the British fleet; their generation was a generation of ten years, not a generation of thirty or forty years; a fleet constructed in one decade was found by the next decade to be completely out of date, and it was found necessary to re-construct or entirely remodel the vessels that had been built only ten years before. His Honor would further illustrate the matter by referring to the steam engine. He was told that the rapidity by which old engines were superseded by new ones was something surprising; that the new engines consumed much less coal, and were therefore more profitable to every one except the coal owners. He was told that the best boats which the best builders could supply three or four years ago were rapidly being superseded by better built vessels, and he believed it was the same with regard to buildings, drainage, and sanitary improvements of all kinds. If there was a probability, or even a possibility, that what we had done at the present time would be behind the requirements of the next generation, that next generation might not be willing to pay for what was done thirty years before. But he had so far yielded to the concessions urged by the Justices as to believe that it might be possible, even if not probable, that some of the works constructed by the Justices might be unusually permanent works, with regard to which it might be reasonable to extend the period of repayment to fifty years. What he wished to explain before hon'ble members committed themselves regarding section 3 of the Bill was, that that section, as now drawn, rendered it possible to extend the period of repayment to fifty years. Hon'ble members would find that the section did not provide for a sinking fund, accumulated with compound interest till the whole period which would be required to accumulate the total amount of the capital had been completed, but that sums so invested for repayment of loans were to be applied to the repayment of such portions of the loan as had accrued due. If an arrangement was made for the repayment of a portion of the loan each year, then the 2 per cent would be applied to repay that portion of the loan as it might fall due, and the loan would not be completely paid off until the expiration of fifty years. His Honor would illustrate the matter in this way. It so happened that the debentures issued by the municipality run to the year 1884, that is to say, thirteen years hence; consequently the sums accumulated for the repayment of the loan would accumulate with compound interest for thirteen years, and at the end of that time they would be applied to the repayment of the debentures then falling due. After that no more interest would accumulate on those sums. Therefore, the practical result would be, as explained by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, that the whole loan would be paid off in forty-two or forty-three years. That, His Honor hoped, would be accepted as a reasonable compromise of the difficulty.

MR. COLVIN said, it appeared to him that this section involved two points for the consideration of the Council. The first question had already been discussed, namely the question, whether the period within which the municipal loan should be repaid should be thirty years or fifty years; that he quite agreed was open to discussion with reference to the extent and permanence of future new works to be constructed by the Justices. For his own part he thought it would be more prudent to repay the loans within one generation; that period was the precise period which the Justices had themselves adopted in establishing a sinking fund. The Bill proposed to provide that in giving the Justices increased borrowing powers, it should be on the condition that the debenture-holders should be placed in no worse position as regards the ultimate repayment of the loan than that in which they now stood. The proposition of the Justices, in their letter of the 15th January, did not keep this proposal in view, and instead of a sinking fund, they proposed contracting loans from the Government of India for the repayment of the public debentures by annual instalments of 2 per cent., and thus to extend the period of their liquidation to fifty years. But it appeared to him that as in the case of former loans from the Secretary of State he had insisted on the establishment of a sinking fund for the repayment of the loan, in all future loans from the Government the same principle would be observed. The Justices might be

correct in assuming that the Government of India would be willing to be their sole creditor; but it might well happen that at times when the money market was easy the public would be willing to lend on more advantageous terms than the Government of India would be disposed to accept, and he (Mr. Colvin) thought it should be open to the Justices to go to the cheapest market. There could be no doubt that the Government of India would make their own terms, and it seemed to him that it was beside the power of this Council to do more than to enact that the public loans should be paid off within a certain period, and that they should be subject to the operation of a sinking fund. Taking this view of the matter, it would be his duty to support the Bill as it stood, subject to a verbal amendment excluding Government loans from the operation of the Bill, and limiting the sinking fund to the aggregate of their public securities.

MR. WYMAN said, he should be inclined to support the section as it stood with reference to the sum to be set aside as a sinking fund: he thought it would be dangerous to go below the proportion of 2 per cent. as a sinking fund.

But there were some other points connected with this section to which he would wish to call attention, and possibly to move amendments. The section provided in line 19 that the securities were to be invested in the names of the Chairman of the Justices and the Accountant-General to the Government of Bengal. He (Mr. Wyman) thought that the sinking fund should be held independently of the officers of the municipality, and he would rather see the name of the official trustee of Bengal substituted for that of the Chairman of the Justices. He would call the attention of the Council to the remarks which fell at the meeting before last from an hon'ble member of this Council, who stated that for twelve months after the passing by the Justices of a resolution for the establishment of a sinking fund, the sinking fund was omitted to be established. It was clear that a like dereliction of duty might again occur. He thought that a trust like this should be a sacred one, and that no officer of the municipality should have anything to do with it; and he could not conceive a more proper person than the official trustee, in connection with the Accountant-General.

The next point to which he wished to refer was the investment of the surplus amount after the interest on debentures should have been paid. The section provided that the surplus should be invested in Government securities; but it had occurred to him that if it were permitted to the Justices to invest the surplus in their own unmatured debentures, it might happen under certain circumstances that very great economy to the tax-payers might result. As for instance, owing to the depression of the market, or want of confidence in the Justices, the debentures might fall, and it might then become more desirable to purchase their own debentures than to invest in Government securities. He thought therefore that it was highly desirable that the Justices should be able to purchase their own debentures when they considered it advisable to do so. The security to the Government would remain the same, and as the public debt would be lessened, and it would be to the interest of the tax-payers that the Justices should have this power.

RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE's amendment was then by leave withdrawn.

On the motion of MR. BERNARD the "Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Revenue Department" was substituted for the "Chairman of the Justices" as one of the Trustees under the Act, in lieu of "the Official Trustee of Bengal," proposed by Mr. Wyman.

MR. WYMAN moved the insertion of the words, "or in Calcutta municipal debentures," after the word "Government," in line 18, so as to enable the Justices to invest their surplus funds in the purchase of their own debentures.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said that this was one of those practical questions upon which he would like to hear the opinion of the commercial members of the Council, with reference to its probable effect upon the market of such dealings.

MR. ROBINSON said he thought there could be no objection to the amendment proposed; it was simply that the Justices should be allowed to invest a portion of the sinking fund in the purchase of their own debentures: if that was the whole change that was proposed, he did not see that it was open to any objection. It was perfectly possible to conceive certain circumstances under which municipal debentures might be a cheaper investment than any other species of investment at a particular time, and the Justices would naturally wish to invest their funds in them.

Mr. Wyman's amendment was then agreed to.

On the motion of MR. BERNARD the words at the end of the section—

"All interest accruing due on the said securities shall also, from time to time, be invested by the trustees in like manner, and held upon the like trust"

were omitted, and the following words were substituted:—

"And all moneys and securities now held by any trustees appointed by the said Justices for the purpose of paying off any portion of the said fifty-five lakhs shall be forthwith transferred to the trustees under this Act and invested in their names and held by them upon the trusts hereinbefore declared. All interest accruing due to the trustees shall also, from time to time, be invested by them in like manner, and held upon the like trust."

MR. DAMPIER said that before leaving this section, he would like to have it explained how it was proposed that the Justices should be compelled to invest money for the sinking fund; whether a writ of *mandamus* was the only means of compelling the Justices to observe the directions of this Act? He took great interest in the Bill as it now stood, as the holder of the office which he had the honor at present to fill was to be one of the trustees.

MR. BERNARD said he believed the learned Advocate-General had explained that in the case of the Justices declining or neglecting to fulfil the obligations imposed upon them by the Bill, the common law would be sufficient to enforce their observance of the provisions of the law. He (Mr. Bernard) presumed that if the Justices did neglect to carry out the provisions of the Act in this respect, it would be open to the trustees to move for a writ of *mandamus* against them.

MR. DAMPIER explained that what he wished to know was, whether it would be the duty of the trustees to enforce the provisions of the Act in this respect; or whether their duties commenced only after the investment of the funds in their name.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said he thought this very question had been discussed and satisfactorily disposed of on a former occasion, and he was not aware that a more stringent measure would be required to induce the hon'ble member to do his duty,—it was merely the duty of the trustees to comply with the requirements of the Act. He thought he might say that the trustees had no duty to perform until the money was placed in their hands; they were then bound to dispose of it in the terms of the Act. He believed public-spirited men would not be wanting to put the law in force when there was any occasion to do so.

MR. RIVERS THOMPSON said before the question was put that the section, as amended, stand part of the Bill, he wished to put to the Council a suggestion that a certain addition should be made in the 20th line. He believed it was the opinion of the late Advocate-General that in the case of investments of money in the name of officials, it would be advisable to add words to the effect that they should be invested in the name of such officer for the time being. He would therefore suggest the insertion of the words "respectively for the time being," after the words "Accountant-General of the Government of Bengal." It was, he believed, the opinion of Mr. Cowie that on the retirement or promotion or death, of any one of such trustees, some confusion and difficulty might arise from the necessity of endorsing over the papers to their successors; whereas the insertion of the words he had proposed would have the effect of continuing the trust in the officer for the time being without the necessity of any formal transfer or endorsement. If the Council were of the same opinion, he (Mr. Thompson) thought it would be advisable to insert the words which he proposed, and he would therefore move their insertion.

The motion was agreed to, and the section, as amended, was passed.

On the motion of Mr. Bernard the Bill was then passed.

JUTE WAREHOUSES: FIRE-BRIGADE.

MR. BERNARD moved that the report of the select committee on the Bill to amend the law for the registration of jute warehouses in Calcutta and to provide for the establishment of an efficient fire-brigade in Calcutta and its suburbs, be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill. He said that the select committee's report and the amended Bill had been in the hands of the members of the Council for a week; and he would only very briefly explain the principal alterations made by the select committee, and the reasons for those changes. The Bill as first introduced, had provided that licenses should be granted or renewed as a matter of course to all existing jute warehouses; while the justices should have discretion in regard to the licensing of new warehouses. The Bill as first drawn was in accordance with the wishes of the Calcutta Corporation as it had then been expressed. But when the Bill was referred to the Calcutta Justices and to the Chamber of Commerce for opinion, both these bodies gave very decided opinions that the Bill did not go nearly far enough. They recommended that the conditions and restrictions under which jute warehouses might be licensed, should be laid down by law, and they strongly urged that no warehouses should be licensed in Calcutta, except under such restrictions as to reduce the chance of fire to a minimum. These views were in some degree challenged by the British Indian Association, but the select committee, after some discussion, accepted the main principles laid down by the Justices and the Chamber, and the committee felt more free so to do because, at the debate, before the Bill was referred to a select committee, decided opinions had been expressed by some members, in favor of more strict provisions than the Bill as originally drawn contained. The committee accepted the plan of the Justices for giving effect to the view it was decided to adopt. That plan delegated to a sub-committee of the Justices the duty of inspecting each existing warehouse, and reporting upon its fitness for a license. This duty of inspection would be heavy, for the work would have to be done before the end of July next; but the Chairman and the Justices voluntarily offered themselves for it, and there seemed no other agency for such a duty which would command a like degree of public confidence. The only other new provisions of importance adopted by the select committee, were those which laid down the conditions and fees under which jute warehouses might be licensed, and which prohibited dealing in or letting off fire-works without a license. These sections were introduced after fully considering the views of the Justices and of the Chamber of Commerce. Having thus shortly explained the more important changes made in the Bill by the select committee, Mr. Bernard moved that the report be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill.

MR. COLVIN said, as some of the amendments made in the Bill by the select committee were introduced in consequence of the suggestion he had the honor to submit to the Council, it might perhaps be desirable that he should say a few words in reference to them, although the explanation given by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill rendered it unnecessary for him to do more than briefly to confirm what the hon'ble member had stated. The Council would probably recollect that when the Bill was introduced, he (Mr. Colvin) had observed that its provisions hardly went far enough, and that scarcely sufficient protection was guaranteed against accidents by fire to property in the neighbourhood of jute godowns, and that it appeared to him necessary to take steps for the prohibition of licenses to such dangerous depôts as now existed within the limits of the town, and their removal to the outskirts of the town.

This recommendation, which had already been backed by the Agents of Fire Insurance Companies, was referred to the various public bodies noted on the report, and with some modification and exception was generally approved of, and elicited such a degree of support to the opinion that some such measure

was really essential as to render it unnecessary for him to show cause further in its favor.

But in considering the best practical way of dealing with the question of jute warehouses by legislation in the proposed direction, the select committee were assisted by the suggestion of the Justices, that they should take power to appoint a committee of their number to inspect and report upon existing warehouses, and on such report, that the Justices should have power to withhold a license to such warehouses as might be a source of danger to life and property in the neighbourhood, and to grant a license to those warehouses only that appeared reasonably safe for the purpose, on their assenting to conform to certain conditions, and on the payment of a certain fee. In conferring this power on the Justices in Calcutta, and the Municipal Commissioners in the suburbs in regard to jute warehouses within their jurisdiction, he trusted it would be considered that a fair and satisfactory compromise and settlement of the whole matter had been arrived at as between the abolitionists on the one side and the owners and occupiers of jute warehouses on the other. He thought that, on the whole, a very satisfactory solution had been deduced from the proposition summarily to close each and every existing warehouse. It was seldom that any public improvement of this kind could take effect without some objection being taken as to inconvenience or injury to private property. He maintained that no real hardship would be inflicted by saying that persons should not be permitted to endanger the lives and property of the neighbourhood, simply because they had hitherto been allowed to do so with impunity. Possibly objection might also be taken to the scale of license fees being so high, but he thought that to make them lower would to a great extent defeat the purpose of the Bill. It appeared to him that the only cases in which complaint was likely to be made as to the high rate of fees, would be the very cases in which licenses ought to be prohibited under any circumstances.

He would add one word as to the contribution from Fire Insurance Companies towards the expenses of the Fire-Brigade. When the Bill was first introduced, he had recorded his objection to this as to some extent a tax upon individuals for the benefit of the community; he could not say that this objection was altogether removed from his mind, but he was unwilling to press it further, as the amount of the charge proposed to be levied was comparatively insignificant, and if he was wrong in assenting to it, he had at any rate the satisfaction to know that he was sailing in good company, as precisely similar provisions were contained in the London Fire-Brigade Act.

He trusted the Bill would commend itself to the judgment of the Council, and would be considered a useful enactment, adding another to the many improvements which had been effected in Calcutta during recent years, and tending to raise it another step on the scale of commercial cities as regards the comfort and safety of its inhabitants and the protection of their property.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said, since it appeared that this Bill, in its main features, was likely to be acceptable to the Council, he was sure he might congratulate the select committee on the successful result of their labors. The subject was at first an extremely difficult one, and he could not have imagined that the select committee could have come to so more satisfactory a conclusion.

The motion was then agreed to.

On the motion of MR. BERNARD, the clauses of the Bill were considered for settlement in the form recommended by the select committee.

The consideration of sections 1 to 3 was postponed.

Section 4 was agreed to.

His Honor the President here left the chair, and Mr. Schaleh presided.

Section 5 empowered the "Justices" to appoint a special committee of their own number to inspect and report upon existing jute warehouses, and to award such fee to each member of the committee as they might think fit.

Upon the motion of Mr. Wyman the words "at a special meeting" were inserted after the word "Justices," so as to make the appointment of the committee an act of the Justices in meeting, and not of the Chairman under the interpretation of "Justices," contained in Act VI of 1863, with which this Bill was incorporated.

Section 6 was passed with a similar amendment; and the addition to the section of the following words: "Every license granted under this section shall be subject to the payment of an annual fee, to be imposed and paid in manner as in the next succeeding section is directed, and to such other of the conditions mentioned therein as the Justices may think fit."

In section 7 the same amendment was made; and in addition thereto the following amendments were moved:—

In clause (1) the words "or clippings" were struck out, as being included within the meaning of the word "cuttings."

In the same clause, Mr. Wyman moved an amendment to the effect that the beams of warehouses should also be made of iron. After some conversation this amendment was carried on the following division:—

AYES 7.	NOES 4.
Mr. Wyman. „ Robinson. „ Colvin. Baboo Degumber Mitter. Mr. Bayley. „ Dampier. The President.	Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore. Moulvie Abdool Lutef. Mr. Bernard. „ Thompson.

In clause (2), which provided that warehouses should be supplied with solid doors or gates which "can be securely closed," Mr. Wyman moved the substitution of the words "shall be considered by the Justices to be safe" for the words "can be securely closed." After some discussion, this amendment was negatived.

Clause (5) provided that "the boilers and fire of any steam engine used in such jute warehouse shall be at a reasonable distance from the building." On the motion of Mr. Robinson this clause was amended, so as to stand, "the engines and furnaces used in such jute warehouse shall be placed as may be considered necessary for safety by the Justices."

Section 8 was passed with a verbal amendment.

Section 9 gave a discretionary power to the "Justices" to cancel or suspend a license on a breach of any of the conditions of a license. Mr. Wyman moved the insertion of the words "at a special meeting" after the word "Justices," so as to ensure the power being exercised only by the Justices at a meeting. After some discussion the amendment was carried on the following division:—

AYES 8.	NOES 3.
Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore. Mr. Wyman. Baboo Degumber Mitter. Moulvie Abdool Lutef. Mr. Bernard. „ Thompson. „ Dampier. The President.	Mr. Robinson. „ Colvin. „ Bayley.

Section 10 was passed with a formal amendment.

The further consideration of the Bill was then postponed.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 3rd February.

Rainfall, Weather and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather and State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of the Lower Provinces of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending 27th January 1872.

No	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station, in inches.	Character of the weather in the district, as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
		1872.				
1	Bhargulpore	Jan. 27th	0.1	Favorable	Very good; the rain has been very beneficial which fell copiously in Soopool.	
2	Monghyr	" 27th	1.1	Rainy	Good.	
3	Purneah	" 27th	0	Foggy and seasonable.	Pulses, &c., being reaped; the spring crops promise well.	
4	Rajmehal	" 27th	Light shower.	Occasionally cloudy.	Mustard fair; wheat average but wants rain.	
5	Deoghur	" 27th	0	Variable	Mustard and urhur being cut, the outturn about 10 annas.	
6	Nya Doomka	" 27th	0	Foggy and cold.	Mustard being reaped; it is not good.	
7	Godda	" 27th	Light shower.	Cloudy and foggy	Cold weather crops poor, owing to want of rain.	No rain gauge.
8	Pakour	" 27th	0	Cloudy	Satisfactory	
9	Jamtarra	" 27th	0	Cloudy and sometimes close and at other times cold.	Mustard, the only crop on the ground, is poor.	Not taken owing to absence at Rajmehal.
10	Patna	" 27th	1.3	Foggy and rainy	Pulses may suffer from the heavy rain.	
11	Gya	" 27th	0.2	Good	The rain has done good to the crops, which are promising.	
12	Chumparun	" 27th	Slight.	Cloudy and foggy	The spring crops promise a rich outturn; the rain has been good to poppy and oats, but not to wheat and peas.	
13	Sarun	" 27th	1.5	Cloudy and rainy	The rain has somewhat damaged the peas and the gram.	
14	Shahabad	" 27th	1.6	Cloudy and chilly	Pulses damaged by the rain; other winter crops promising.	
15	Tirhoot	" 27th	1.4	Cloudy	Spring crops continue promising.	
16	Rajshahye	" 25th	0	Cold	Spring crops flourishing.	Cholera and fever yet continue in some places.
17	Bograh	" 26th	0	Cloudy with a slight drizzle.	Satisfactory.	
18	Dinagepore	" 27th	0.6	Foggy and cloudy	Generally favorable.	
19	Maldah	" 27th	Light shower.	Fair, cold, and pleasant.	Good.	
20	Moorshedabad	" 27th	0	Fair	Good; a little rain would have done good to some crops.	
21	Pubna	" 27th	0	Fine and seasonable.	Good	
22	Rungpore	" 27th	0	Foggy and damp	Most crops gathered; mustard good.	
23	Burdwan	" 27th	0	Fair	Winter crops satisfactory.	
24	Bancoorah	" 26th	0	Cool	Winter crops not doing well for want of rain.	
25	Beerbhoom	" 27th	0	Fine; sky rather overcast.	The crops will be fair if it rains now.	
26	Hooghly	" 27th	0	Partly clear and partly cloudy.	Winter crops good.	
27	Howrah	" 27th	0	Favorable	Satisfactory.	
28	Midnapore	" 26th	0	Fair	Good.	
29	Nuddea	" 27th	0	Seasonable, though rather warm.	Not very good.	
30	Jessore	" 26th	0	Very fine	Good.	
31	24-Pergunnahs	" 27th	0	Fair	Good.	
32	Dacca	" 27th	0	Seasonable	Good.	
33	Backergunge	" 26th	0	Fair and cold	Good; rice nearly all cut.	
34	Purreedpore	" 27th	0	Warm and close	Good	
35	Mymensingh	" 27th	0	Fair	Good.	
36	Sylhet	" 20th	0	Good	Very good.	A dust storm on the evening of the 26th. No more cholera. General health fair.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station, in inches.	Character of the weather in the district, as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
1872.						
37	Cachar	Jan. 20th	0	Fair	Favorable.	
38	Chittagong	" 20th	0	Bright and cold	Rice harvested; outturn unusually good; winter crops generally fair.	
39	Nonkhally or Bulloah	" 19th	0	Fair	Good.	
40	Tipperah	" 26th	0	Fair	Good.	
41	Hill Tracts of Chittagong.	" 20th	0	Foggy	Good.	
42	Cuttack.				Good.	
43	Balasore	" 27th	0	Seasonable	Cold weather crops suffering from want of rain; exportation of rice to Ganjam continues.	
44	Pooree	" 20th	0	Seasonable	Favorable, but the continuance of the cloudy weather will be injurious.	
45	Hazareebaugh	" 27th	0	Cloudy	A little rain in Palamow has done good to the crops, which promise fair.	
46	Lohardugga	" 26th	0	Warm	Owing to want of rain there will be loss of 8 annas in rice, 6 as. in spring crops, and 10 as. teal, mustard, and other oil seeds.	
47	Maunbhoom	" 27th	0	Fine	Good.	
48	Singbhoom	" 20th	0	Dry and cold	Rice and pulses reaped; sugar-cane and mustard doing well.	
49	Durrung	" 19th	0	Cold	Rice gathered; spring crops promising well.	
50	Nowgong	" 19th	0	Cold	Good; most crops harvested.	
51	Sechsaugor	" 20th	0	Very cold, healthy and pleasant.	Rice favorable.	
52	Kamroop	" 20th	0	Dry and cold	Satisfactory.	
53	Luckimpore	" 20th	0	Fair	" No standing crop."	
54	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	" 19th	0	Fine	All crops gathered; outturn remarkably good; the hillmen cutting fresh " jhooms " for the ensuing year.	
55	Naga Hills	" 12th	0	Cold and healthy	Rice gathered; outturn below average; mustard satisfactory.	
56	Julpigoree	" 27th	1.0	Cold and cloudy	Winter crops reaped; outturn of mustard less than the last year.	
57	Gowalparah	" 20th	0	Foggy and cloudy	" No crops on the ground at present."	
58	Garó Hills	" 20th	0	Fair	In the hills wheat and barley are promising; in the Terai kullai being reaped, and mustard promising.	
59	Darjeeling	" 27th	0.4	Very cold	Good.	
60	Cooch Behar	" 20th	0	Foggy and cold		

N.B.—The columns of the districts from which returns have not been received remain blank.

Published for general information.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 30th January 1872.

R. H. WILSON,
Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

**Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological
Reporter's Office.**

DIVISIONS.	Stations.	Rain from 8th to 14th Jan. 1872.	Rain from 15th to 21st Jan. 1872.	RAIN FROM 1st JANUARY 1872		REMARKS.
				Inches.	Up to date	
CUTTACK.	Cuttack { Telegraph Office ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Cuttack { Jail ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	False Point ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Jajpore ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Kendraparah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Jagatsingapore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Sumulpore ...	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	Bansore ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Bhuddruck ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
CHOTA NAGPORE.	Pooree ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	Not received 8th to 14th Jan.
	Khoordah ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Hazareebaugh { Jail ...	Nil	0.24	0.24	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Hazareebaugh { Dispensary ...	ditto	0.12	0.12	ditto.	
	Burhee ...	ditto	0.10	0.10	ditto.	
	Puchumba ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Ranchee ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Palamow ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Purulia ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	
PATNA.	Golandpore ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Chyebassa ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Patna (Bankipore) ...	ditto	0.10	0.70	ditto.	
	Dinapore { Jail ...	ditto	0.25	0.88	ditto.	
	Dinapore { Cantonment ...	ditto	Not received	0.00	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Behar ...	Not received	ditto	0.16	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Barh ...	Nil	ditto	0.50	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Gya ...	ditto	ditto	0.14	ditto.	
	Sherghotty ...	ditto	0.10	0.10	21st Jan. 1872.	
BHAUGTIPUR.	Nowadah ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Arungabad ...	ditto	1.03	1.11	ditto.	
	Chumparan ...	ditto	Not received	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Bettiah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Chuprah ...	ditto	Nil	0.80	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Sewan ...	Not received	0.22	0.76	ditto.	Not received 8th to 14th Jan.
	Mozuffernore ...	Nil	0.10	0.70	ditto.	
	Durbhangah ...	ditto	0.02	0.02	ditto.	
	Sentamaree ...	ditto	0.10	0.60	ditto.	
RAJSHAHY.	Tajpore ...	ditto	Nil	2.20	ditto.	
	Mudhubani ...	ditto	0.20	0.42	ditto.	
	Hajipore ...	ditto	0.12	0.48	ditto.	
	Arrah ...	ditto	0.23	0.77	ditto.	
	Buxar ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Sasseram ...	Nil	0.11	0.19	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Rhubhooah ...	ditto	0.20	0.70	ditto.	
	Bemara ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Bhangulpore ...	ditto	0.10	0.10	ditto.	
BUNDWA.	Mudheypoorah ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Banka ...	ditto	Not received	0.36	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Suopool ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Mouhlyr ...	ditto	0.20	0.22	ditto.	
	Jamone ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Bogosoora ...	Not received	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Deognur ...	Nil	Nil	0.03	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Jamtara ...	ditto	Not received	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Rajmehal ...	Not received	ditto	...	...	
RAJSHAHY.	Pakour ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Nya-Doomka ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Purneah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Kishengunge ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Arrareah ...	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	Rampore Beaulah ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Nattore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Bogran ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Dinapore ...	ditto	0.35	0.35	ditto.	
BUNDWA.	Maldah ...	ditto	Nil	0.05	ditto.	
	Berhampore ...	0.04	ditto	0.04	ditto.	
	Jangipore ...	Nil	0.03	0.00	ditto.	
	Lalbagh ...	0.11	Nil	0.11	ditto.	
	Jamsookandi ...	Not received	ditto	Nil	ditto.	Not received 1st to 14th Jan.
	Puina ...	Nil	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Serajunge ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Rungpore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Bhowanigunge ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
BUNDWA.	Titaiya ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Burawan ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Cutwa ...	0.12	Not received	0.12	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Culina ...	0.02	ditto	0.02	ditto.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Bood-Bood ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Bancoorah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Raneegunge ...	...	ditto	0.15	ditto.	
	Sooree ...	0.05	ditto	0.07	ditto.	
	Hooghly ...	0.50	ditto	0.50	ditto.	
BUNDWA.	Serampore ...	0.18	ditto	0.18	ditto.	
	Jehanabad ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Howrah ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Midnapore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Contai { Dy. Collr.'s Office ...	1.35	Not received	1.35	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Contai { Exe. Engr.'s Office ...	1.00	Nil	1.00	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Gurutta ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Tumlook ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	

DIVISIONS.	Stations.	Rain from 8th to 14th Jan. 1872.	Rain from 15th to 21st Jan. 1872.	RAIN FROM 1st JANUARY 1872.		REMARKS.
				Inches.	Up to date.	
PRESIDENCY.	Kishnaghur ...	0.08	Not received	0.08	14th Jan. 1872.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Bongong ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Ranaghat ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Meherpore ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Choodahgah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Kooshtea ...	Nil	Nil	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Jessore ...	0.09	ditto	0.09	ditto.	
	Khoolnah ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Jenidah ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Nurail ...	ditto	ditto	...	...	
	Magoorah ...	ditto	ditto	...	...	
	Bagirhatt ...	ditto	ditto	...	...	
	Saugor Island ...	0.02	Nil	0.02	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Calcutta ...	0.22	ditto	0.22	ditto.	
	Alipore { Hospital ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Alipore { Jail ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Barrackpore ...	0.70	Not received	0.70	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Dum-Dum ...	0.10	ditto	0.10	ditto.	
	Barnet ...	0.31	ditto	0.31	ditto.	
	Satkerah ...	0.16	ditto	0.16	ditto.	
	Basseerhatt ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Diamond Harbour ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Barripore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
DACCA.	Dacca { Telegraph Office ...	0.51	ditto	0.51	ditto.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Dacca { Jail ...	0.05	Nil	0.05	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Barranul ...	0.37	ditto	0.37	ditto.	
	Dowlat Khan ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Perozepore ...	0.17	Nil	0.37	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Madaripore ...	0.70	ditto	0.70	ditto.	
	Furzedpore ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Goulundo ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Mymensing ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Jamalpore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Atteah ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Kishoregunge ...	Not received	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
CHITTAGONG.	Sylhet ...	Nil	Nil	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Cachar ...	0.25	Not received	0.25	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Hylakandy ...	0.39	ditto	0.39	ditto.	
	Koyah ...	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	Chittagong { Telegraph Office ...	0.40	Nil	0.40	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Chittagong { Jail ...	0.44	ditto	0.44	ditto.	
	Cox's Bazar ...	Not received	Not received	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
COCHIN BEHAR.	Rangamattee Hill ...	0.50	Nil	0.50	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Noakhally ...	0.59	ditto	0.59	ditto.	
	Tipperah ...	0.26	ditto	0.26	ditto.	
	Brahmanbariah ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Akyab ...	0.10	Nil	0.10	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Cooch Behar ...	Not received	Not received	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Buxa ...	Nil	0.18	0.18	21st Jan. 1872.	
ASSAM.	Goatparah ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Dhooobree ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Tura (Garo Hills) ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Darjeeling { Telegraph Office ...	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	Darjeeling { Hospital ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Rungbee ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Julpigoores ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
ASSAM.	Boda ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Tezpor ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Nowgong ...	ditto	ditto	0.40	ditto.	
	Mungledye ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Burpettah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Gowhatty ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Seebmagor ...	0.08	Not received	0.48	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Jorehaut ...	Nil	ditto	0.10	ditto.	
	Golaghat ...	ditto	ditto	0.08	ditto.	
	Nazeerah ...	0.10	ditto	0.20	ditto.	
	Debrooghur ...	0.23	ditto	0.50	ditto.	
ASSAM.	Suddya ...	Not received	ditto	0.80	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Shillong ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Cherrapunjee ...	0.02	ditto	0.02	ditto.	
	Jaowai ...	Not received	ditto	Nil	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Samougoodting ...	Nil	ditto	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	

CALCUTTA,
The 27th January 1872.

HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 21st to 27th January 1872.

STATIONS.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	Barometer reduced to sea-level.	THERMOMETER		Humidity Sat. -100	WIND.		Rain.	Clouds.	Weather initials.
					Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity			
CALCUTTA.	Jan.											
	21st	10	30.155	30.174	67.0	61.5	71	N N W	...	...	C	
		16	30.011	30.029	75.5	61.5	51	N W	...	...	C	
	22nd	10	30.083	30.102	69.0	63.0	70	W N W	...	...	...	b
		16	29.918	29.936	76.7	65.0	49	W N W	...	...	...	b
	23rd	10	30.063	30.082	72.8	68.5	78	W by S	...	...	C	
		16	29.936	29.954	79.5	70.0	69	S by W	...	...	...	b
	24th	10	30.086	30.109	70.0	67.6	89	S by W	...	...	K	
		16	29.944	29.962	79.5	68.2	52	S S W	...	...	...	b
	25th	10	30.059	30.078	71.5	69.0	87	S S W	...	...	...	b
		16	29.953	29.971	80.4	71.0	60	S S W	...	...	K	
	26th	10	30.007	30.116	71.0	66.9	80	E S E	...	...	CS	
SAGOR ISLAND.		16	29.908	29.986	76.8	69.8	68	S by E	...	...	CS	
	27th	10	30.125	30.144	70.5	67.5	84	E by N	...	...	K	
		16	29.966	29.984	77.8	70.0	65	S S W	...	...	K, CS	
	21st	10	30.158	30.164	70	69	61	N	6.8*	...	C	b, m
		16	30.010	30.016	77	68	69	N W	7.8*	...	C	b, m
	22nd	10	30.086	30.092	71	67	80	N W	4.0*	...	C	b, m
		16	29.931	29.937	78	68	57	S W	8.3*	...	C	b, m
	23rd	10	30.058	30.064	75	70	76	S S E	2.7*	...	C	b, m
		16	29.955	29.961	78	73	77	S S W	8.2*	...	...	b
	24th	10	30.102	30.108	76	72	81	S W	6.1*	...	K	b
		16	29.972	29.978	79	73	73	S S E	6.7*	...	...	b, m
	25th	10	30.075	30.081	76	72	81	S	6.6*	...	C	b, m
CHITTAGONG.		16	29.985	29.991	79	72	69	S	10.8*	...	CS	b, m
	26th	10	30.087	30.093	75	72	85	N W	5.5*	...	N	b
		16	29.975	29.979	78	73	77	S S W	6.8*	...	KS	b
	27th	10	30.127	30.133	76	73	86	N N W	1.0*	...	N	b
		16	29.981	29.987	79	73	73	S	7.1*	...	KS	b
	21st	10	30.032	30.127	71	64	66	N N W	3.8*	...	...	b, m
		16	29.943	30.037	73	64	58	S W	6.6*	...	...	b, m
	22nd	10	29.982	30.077	71	64	66	N N E	3.8*	...	...	b, m
		16	29.853	29.947	75	64	47	W S W	6.2*	...	...	b, m
	23rd	10	29.969	30.064	72	65	66	N	3.1*	...	...	b, m
		16	29.878	29.972	77	65	49	W S W	6.7*	...	...	b, m
	24th	10	29.969	30.064	72	64	71	N	1.1*	...	...	b, m
MADRAS.		16	29.895	29.989	77	67	55	W	7.4*	...	...	b, m
	25th	10	29.984	30.078	74	66	63	N E	3.4*	...	...	b, m
		16	29.918	30.011	78	68	57	S S W	9.6*	...	...	b, m
	26th	10	30.026	30.121	72	67	75	N E	4.3*	...	...	b, m
		16	29.928	30.022	74	64	72	W S W	6.5*	...	...	b, m
	27th	10	30.026	30.120	73	67	71	N N W	3.5*	...	...	b, m
		16	29.905	29.998	78	68	67	W	6.3*	...	...	b
	20th	10	30.122	30.152	84	72	53	E N E	9*	...	...	bc
		16	29.902	30.022	82	70	52	N E	11*	...	...	bc
	21st	10	30.084	30.114	83	73	60	N E	12*	...	...	bc
		16	29.931	29.961	82	70	52	N E	16*	...	...	bc
CUTTACK.	22nd	10	30.054	30.084	79	68	54	N N W	7*	...	...	bc
		16	29.919	29.949	82	69	48	N E	9*	...	...	bc
	23rd	10	30.039	30.069	81	71	59	N N W	4*	...	...	bc
		16	29.911	29.941	82	72	59	E N E	11*	...	...	bc
	24th	10	30.026	30.056	82	73	63	E N E	8*	...	...	bc
		16	29.905	29.935	81	73	66	E	11*	...	...	bc
	25th	10	30.019	30.049	83	75	67	E by S	6*	...	...	bc
		16	29.902	29.932	81	74	70	E S E	10*	...	...	bc
	26th	10	30.047	30.077	84	73	56	E	5*	...	...	bc
		16	29.917	29.947	81	71	59	E N E	10*	...	...	bc
	20th	10	30.152	30.236	73	64	58	N E	2.9*	...	...	fair
		16	29.971	30.054	80	66	44	N E	3.4*	...	C	fair
K. ARYAB.	21st	10	30.072	30.156	73	65	62	N E	0.5*	...	C, KS	fair
		16	29.921	30.004	82	64	45	E	1.8*	...	C	fair
	22nd	10	30.009	30.103	75	68	68	S	0.3*	...	C	fair
		16	29.839	29.921	85	68	37	S S E	2.2*	...	C	fair
	23rd	10	29.964	30.047	77	70	68	S W	0.9*	...	CK	fair
		16	29.843	29.925	88	69	34	S E	3.6*	...	KS	fair
	24th	10	30.067	30.100	77	70	68	S S E	1.2*	...	...	fair
		16	29.841	29.923	86	66	29	S	2.3*	...	...	fair
	25th	10	29.977	30.060	76	68	64	W S W	1.2*	...	...	fair
		16	29.873	29.955	85	68	37	S S E	4.9*	...	C	fair
	26th	10	30.004	30.087	76	69	68	S W	1.7*	...	...	fair
		16	29.843	29.925	88	69	34	S S W	3.2*	...	KS	fair
K. ARYAB.	21st	10	30.108	30.130	70	67	84	N N E	1	...	...	b
		16	29.982	30.004	80	71	62	W N W	1	...	C	b
	22nd	10	30.046	30.068	71	68	85	N E	1	...	C	b
		16	29.930	29.952	76	69	68	S W	1	...	...	b
	23rd	10	30.061	30.083	69	67	89	N	1	...	CS	b
		16	29.940	29.962	76	70	72	S	1	...	C	b
	24th	10	30.091	30.113	69	67	89	N E	1	...	...	b
		16	29.967	29.989	78	70	65	S	1	...	K	b
	25th	10	30.090	30.118	71	68	85	N E	1	...	...	b
		16	29.979	30.001	80	72	68	W	1	...	K	b
	26th	10	30.086	30.118	72	69	85	N E	1	...	C, CS	b
		16	29.984	30.006	79	71	65	W	1	...	C, CS, K	b
	27th	10	30.073	30.095	72	69	85	E S E	1	...	CK	b
		16	29.962	30.084	79	69	58	W S W	1	...	K	b

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA,
The 27th January 1872.HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal.

Abstract of Observations as received in the Meteorological Reporter's Office, Calcutta,

DURING THE HALF MONTH 16TH TO 30TH NOVEMBER 1871.

N.B.—The Barometric data are reduced for temperatures, and not for height above sea-level.

STATIONS.	BAROMETER.				THERMOMETER.										HUMIDITY.				RAINFALL.					
	Feet.	Height above sea-level.	MEAN OF				Mean of max.	Mean daily range.	Mean of min.	MEAN OF				Highest Max.		Absolute range.	Lowest Min.	MEAN OF				In inches.	No. of days.	
			4 hours.	10 hours.	16 hours.	22 hours.				Range.	SOLAR RADIATION.			Day.	Min.			Day.	16 hours.	10 hours.	4 hours.			22 hours.
											Mean.	Max.	Day.												Min.	Day.
Port Blair	100	Not received.	30.005	29.901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Medra	27	29.953	...	30.005	29.901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Trincomalee	31	29.981	29.959	30.021	29.913	29.981	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Kiyab	21	29.964	29.951	30.014	29.994	29.985	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
False Point	187	30.028	30.026	30.072	29.977	30.039	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Cuddack	80	29.917	29.900	29.970	29.955	29.943	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Saugor Island	6	29.987	29.966	30.048	29.935	29.908	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Chittagong	90	29.867	29.867	29.953	29.935	29.908	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Calcutta	18.11	29.868	29.947	29.934	29.912	29.984	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Jessore	22	29.853	29.852	29.908	29.878	29.978	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Dacca	35	29.844	29.821	29.904	29.883	29.967	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Cachar	88.91	29.862	29.888	29.961	29.92	29.940	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Hazareebangh	2,014	27.965	27.930	29.063	27.918	27.970	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Berhampore	80	29.893	29.880	29.960	29.932	29.900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Gya	400	29.610	29.582	29.671	29.554	29.631	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Patna	179	29.738	29.770	29.861	29.734	29.823	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Monghyr	180.4	29.798	29.785	29.851	29.731	29.821	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Darjeeling	6,945	29.412	29.397	29.433	29.395	29.425	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Balrhar	386	29.552	29.564	29.608	29.482	29.559	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Shillong	4,792	29.332	29.321	29.375	29.280	29.345	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Banar	362.74	29.732	29.711	29.806	29.682	29.728	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Roorkee	879.7	29.117	29.100	29.168	29.079	29.121	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		

CALCUTTA—NOVEMBER 1871.

Mean Barometric pressure of 16 years ... 29.966
 Ditto ditto of 1871 ... 29.954
 Defect in 1871 012

Mean humidity of 16 years ... 74.7
 Ditto ditto of 1871 ... 76.1
 Defect in 1871 ... 1.4

Mean rainfall of 16 years ... 73
 Ditto ditto of 1871 ... 71
 Defect in 1871 ... 2

Mean of 4 hours ... 75
 Mean of 10 hours ... 76
 Mean of 22 hours ... 74

In inches ... 0.56
 No. of days ... 7

CALCUTTA,

The 27th January 1872.

HENRY F. BLANFORD,

Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Mean Pressures and Temperatures of the preceding Table reduced to Sea-Level, with Mean Wind Direction.

STATIONS.	Mean barometric pressure reduced to sea-level.	Mean temperature reduced to sea-level.	WIND.	
			Proportional prevalence, Max.=100.	Mean direction.
Port Blair	...	...	...	...
Madras	29.981	77.2	39	N 30° E
Vizagapatam	29.993	81.8	61	S 79° E
Akyah	29.986	75.8	37	N 41° W
False Point	30.047	78.1	45	N 43° E
Cuttack	30.009	77.1	13	N 44° E
Saugor Island	29.993	75.5	40	N 61° W
Chittagong	29.990	72.9	61	N 25° W
Calcutta	29.988	74.4	79	S 70° W
Jessore	29.976	71.4	21	N 23° W
Dacca	29.981	73.0	17	N 28° W
Cachar	29.986	70.9	31	S 33° E
Hazareebaugh	29.995	73.1	81	N 72° W
Berhampore	29.977	73.0	40	N 47° W
Gya	...	73.2	64	N 80° W
Patna	29.986	67.5	32	N 85° W
Monghyr	29.986	70.3	69	S 73° W
Darjeeling	30.029	68.1	23	S 85° W
Gowalparah	29.951	72.2	20	E
Shillong	30.032	69.2	27	N 68° W
Benares	30.016	69.7	55	N 79° W
Roorkee	30.044	64.5	50	N 48° W

NOTE.

Barometric Pressure.—The pressures in column 2 of the above table for all stations below 500 feet are reduced from those given in column 3 of the table on the previous page by adding the weight of a column of air of the corresponding temperatures given in column 17. For stations of above 500 feet elevation, the reduction is made by Dippe's tables as given in Guyot's "Meteorological and Physical Tables."

Temperature.—The temperatures in column 3 are reduced from those in column 17 on the preceding page by adding 1° Fahr. for every 350 feet.

Wind Direction.—The mean wind direction and its comparative prevalence are calculated from the whole number of wind observations recorded during the half month. The latter is given as a percentage of the whole number of observations. The mean direction is calculated in the usual way by Lambert's formula.

The above being all comparable, afford the data for constructing a meteorological chart for the half month, which shall show the isobaric and isothermal lines and the resultant wind directions, which last may be represented by arrows of varying length proportioned to the prevalence of the wind. To these may be added the rainfall from the previous tables.

CALCUTTA,
The 27th January 1872.

HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

**Abstract of the Results of the Hourly Meteorological Observations taken
at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, in the month of
December 1871.**

LATITUDE 22° 33' 1" north. Longitude 88° 20' 34" east. Height of the cistern of the standard barometer above the sea-level, 18·11 feet.

MONTHLY RESULTS.				Inches.
Mean height of the barometer for the month	...	...	...	30·043
Max. height of the barometer occurred at 10 A.M. on the 14th	...	...	...	30·197
Min. height of the barometer occurred at 4 P.M. on the 1st	...	...	...	29·880
Extreme range of the barometer during the month	...	...	...	0·317
Mean of the daily max. pressures	...	...	...	30·118
Ditto ditto min. ditto	...	...	...	29·986
Mean daily range of the barometer during the month	...	...	...	0·132
				°
Mean dry bulb thermometer for the month	...	...	...	69·0
Max. temperature occurred at 2 P.M. on the 1st	...	...	...	82·5
Min. temperature occurred at 7 A.M. on the 29th	...	...	...	57·0
Extreme range of the temperature during the month	...	...	...	25·5
Mean of the daily max. temperature	...	...	...	77·7
Ditto ditto min. ditto	...	...	...	61·8
Mean daily range of the temperature during the month	...	...	...	15·9
Mean wet bulb thermometer for the month	...	...	...	63·1
Mean dry bulb thermometer above mean wet bulb thermometer	...	...	...	5·9
Computed mean dew-point for the month	...	...	...	58·4
Mean dry bulb thermometer above computed mean dew-point	...	...	...	10·6
				Inches.
Mean elastic force of vapour for the month	...	...	...	0·496
				Troy grain.
Mean weight of vapour for the month	...	...	...	5·46
Additional weight of vapour required for complete saturation	...	...	...	2·30
Mean degree of humidity for the month, complete saturation being unity	...	...	...	0·70
				°
Mean max. solar radiation thermometer for the month	...	...	...	133·6
				Inches.
Rained No. days,—max. fall of rain during 24 hours	...	...	...	Nil
Total amount of rain during the month	...	...	...	Nil
Total amount of rain indicated by the gauge* attached to the Anemometer during	...	...	...	Nil
the month	...	...	...	Nil
Prevailing direction of the wind	...	...	...	W N W & N W

* Height 70 feet 10 inches above ground.

GOPEENAUTH SEN,
In charge of Observatory.

The 29th January 1872.

IRRIGATION BRANCH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Kendraparah Canal during the month of December 1871.

DISTANCE FROM CUTTACK TO TERMINAL LOCK AT TIDE WATER, 42 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.										STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.										ABSTRACT.				
Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Tonnage.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Tonnage.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Remarks.
		Rs.	in No.					Rs.	No.															
5	Passenger...	375	4	...	2 4 3	15	Passenger...	7215	16	...	107 14 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	36	Local	4,151	173 1	3,726	31 0 3	The canal was closed on the 15th of Dec-ember 1871 for annual repairs.
3	Jaggery ...	569	4,339	...	11 4 0	4	Jaggery ...	803	4,339	...	11 4 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Through	1,04,270	1,987 1	5,254	460 6 10	
10	Paddy ...	2,313	4,338	...	107 10 0	41	Paddy ...	8,617	4,338	...	107 10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Irri. works	3,437	1,284 1	24,086	198 11 9	
18	Empty ...	1,578	9,720	...	14 4 0	1	Empty ...	2,570	9,720	...	14 4 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	5,140	...	38 4 0	3	...	5,140	184	...	38 4 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	1,112	...	1 8 0	1	...	1,112	...	...	1 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	46,400	...	34 8 0	3	...	46,400	...	...	34 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	34,560	...	22 2 0	...	...	34,560	...	...	22 2 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	9,315	...	123 0 0	91	Empty ...	9,315	...	...	123 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
36		4,686	1,387 3	53,254	430 0 10	101		1,04,270	38,839	1,387 3	430 0 10	101		1,11,858	2,842	85,076	680 2 10							

IRRIGATION BRANCH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

ORISSA CIRCL

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the 1st Section of the High Level Canal during the month of December 1871.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN, 37 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.										STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.							ABSTRACT.				REMARKS.
Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	TONNAGE.		Ton-mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats or rafts.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	TONNAGE.		Ton-mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Value of traffic.	Ton-nage.	Ton-mileage.	Tollage.		
			Maunds.	Tons.						Maunds.	Tons.										
1	Frames	Rs. 50 0	34½	...	...	Rs. As. P. 0 7 2	1	Screws & Girder	Rs. 250	369	...	...	Rs. As. P. 5 4 0	...	...	...	...	...	Rs. As. P.		
5	Vegetables	49 0	124½	...	...	0 12 7	2	Waggons	...	1,673	...	...	24 12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		
13	Empty	...	411	...	...	3 1 9	1	Crane boat	1,500	5 4	...	...	7 8 0	31	Local	261 8 0	58	771	15 3 11		
4	Firewood	34 8	715	...	...	3 6 0	6	Empty	...	1,717½	...	...	18 7 1	16	Irrn. works	7,091 0 0	225	5,309	68 0 7		
3	Paddy	46 0	85½	...	...	0 5 6	1	Gunny cloth	50	90	...	...	1 5 7	...	....	....	..	...	....		
1	Straw	12 0	204½	...	...	1 0 0	1	Treasure	5,000	14	...	...	0 2 4	...	...	....	..	...	....		
2	Rice, salt, ghee, &c.	50 0	52½	...	...	0 11 11	2	Firewood	41	1,821½	...	...	9 0 0	...	...	....	..	...	....		
2	Passengers	...	...	...	...	0 7 0	1	Girder	250	102	...	...	1 8 0	...	....	....	..	...	....		
	Bamboos	20 0	...	...	...	5 0 0	1	Clay	...	25	...	...	0 1 7	...	....	....	..	...	....		
31		261 8	1,627	68	771	15 3 11	16		7,091	6,316	...	...	68 0 7	47		7,352 9 0	293	6,080	83 4 6		
																				The tonnage shown is that of the boats and not of the cargo.	

IRRIGATION BRANCH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Taldundah Canal during the month of December 1871.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN, 25 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.					STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.					ABSTRACT.									
Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	TONNAGE.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats or rafts.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	TONNAGE.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Value of traffic.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Remarks.
			Maunds.	Tons.						Maunds.	Tons.								
2	Fuel	Rs. As. P. 40 0 0	559	...	...	Rs. As. P. 1 6 4	14	Laterite	Rs. As. P. 217 0 0	11,322	...	...	Rs. As. P. 28 4 11	15	Local	Rs. 90	1,026	Rs. As. P. 6 15 5	The tonnage shown is that of the boats and not of the cargo.
2	Tundy grass	50 0 0	397	...	...	0 15 6	48	Rubble	565 0 0	19,657½	...	...	4 10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	Empty	...	1,437½	...	...	3 9 7	1	Cill	21 0 0	405½	...	...	1 0 3	118	Irrn. works	3,117	38,590	103 9 5	...
1	Demurrage for 4 days, at 4 annas per day.	...	...	...	...	1 0 0	1	Iron goods f.r lock	40 0 0	78½	...	...	0 3 2	...	...	...	...	...	...
							1	Crane boat	2,000 0 0	660	...	...	1 10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
							48	Empty	...	7,469	...	...	18 10 9	...	...	...	...	...	...
15		90 0 0	2,384	85	1,026	6 15 5	116		3,107 0 0	41,431	1,479	38,590	103 9 5	131		3,197	1,561	110 8 10	

IRRIGATION BRANCH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Midnapore Section of the High Level Canal during the month of December 1871.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN, 24 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.										ABSTRACT.					REMARKS.
Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate weight of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	TONNAGE.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.	
				Maunds.	Tons.										
		Rs.					Rs. As. P.			Rs.				Rs. As. P.	
75	Coal ...	39,475	13,718	60,350	...	...	229 5 6	1541	Local	65,841	2,45,846	6,915	52,750	924 9 3	
7	Cotton ...	470	10,375	975	...	...	4 6 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
3	Firewood ...	85	26	200	...	...	0 12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
44	Grain ...	8,189	4,933	6,775	...	...	25 5 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
18	Hides and horns	1,424	27,224	3,325	...	...	15 4 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
21	Jaggery & sugar	782	2,567	3,050	...	...	13 1 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
11	Metals ...	530	22,025	1,325	...	...	8 8 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
161	Miscellaneous ...	5,657	17,075	20,750	...	...	90 11 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
38	Oil and oil-seeds	2,029	9,305	5,500	...	...	22 2 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
11	Paddy and rice	501	819	1,300	...	...	5 5 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
61	Piece goods ...	1,633	62,544	8,175	...	...	34 0 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
16	Garden produce	716	1,255	1,925	...	...	9 0 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
12	Pottery ...	456	112	1,825	...	...	6 13 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
14	Salt ...	1,645	6,580	3,600	...	...	13 10 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
27	Jute ...	1,796	7,200	5,075	...	...	19 0 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
7	Straw ...	833	374	2,100	...	...	8 11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
12	Tobacco ...	1,085	6,250	2,125	...	...	8 6 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
5	Tiles ...	270	162	300	...	...	3 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
19	Sand ...	2,250	144	3,700	...	...	14 4 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
4	Rafts of timbers	...	106	Logs 10	...	...	2 2 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
1	Rafts of bamboos	...	4	" 75	...	...	0 7 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
143	Empty boats ...	...	...	57,800	...	...	287 13 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
813	Passengers ...	...	...	No. 7,950	...	...	75 6 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	Miscellaneous revenue.	...	...	...	...	...	16 14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
8	Police boats ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
17	Silk and indigo	116	52,390	2,350	...	...	10 1 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
1541		65,841	2,45,846	1,93,625	6,915	52,750	924 9 3	1541		65,841	2,45,846	6,915	52,750	924 9 3	

Canal Range No. III closed for annual repairs.

The tonnage shown above is that of the boats and not of the cargo.

IRRIGATION BRANCH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Midgellie Tidal Canal during the month of December 1871.
LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN, 26 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.										STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.										ABSTRACT.				
Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate weight of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	TONNAGE.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats or rafts.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate weight of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	TONNAGE.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.	REMARKS.		
				Maunds.	Tons.							Maunds.	Tons.											
26	Paddy	3,294	Rs. 2,342	5,840			Rs. 38 13 0	4	Ghooting lime	189	Rs. 75	255			Rs. 1 8 6	453	Local	10,818	Rs. 27,131	32,012 1/2	Rs. 7 5 3	Canal closed on the 10th December 1871.		
2	Sugar	34	100	170			0 13 6	1	Coal	150	50	150			1 11 0	9	Irrm. works	729	259	877 1/2	7 5 6			
1	Jaggery	3	6	40			0 3 3	1	Tools & plant	150	100	265			1 10 6									
1	Salt	675	2,862	1,360			7 5 0	2	Bricks	140	14	125			0 12 6									
6	Cocconuts	108	99	636			3 9 6	1	Soorkie	100	20													
1	Spices	50	4,000	200			1 0 0																	
1	Thread	25	1,000	75			0 6 0																	
1	Pottery	600	28	315			1 10 6																	
1	Opium	275	500	475			2 6 0																	
1	Plantain	5	8	60			0 4 9																	
1	Chickens	44	5,400	420			2 1 6																	
2	Tobacco	354	2,285	1,265			9 7 3																	
1	Water	200	475	475			2 6 0																	
1	Animals (cow)	383	1,185	1,100			5 8 0																	
2	Mushtard	680	1,200	925			4 10 0																	
2	Oil cake	45	35	110			0 9 9																	
1	Fishes	10	700	60			0 4 9																	
1	Tamarind	6	3	60			0 4 9																	
1	Nut	10	80	50			0 4 0																	
1	Coal	13	20	90			0 7 3																	
1	Secundree-wood	58	21	210			1 7 0																	
1	Spud	1,410	110	2,310			13 11 3																	
1	Furniture	60	300	175			0 14 9																	
1	Straw	180	30	675			3 6 0																	
1	Tiles	100	200	125			0 14 0																	
1	Timber logs	136	757	550			17 14 6																	
1	Bamboo	490	147	325			3 13 0																	
1	Empty boats			9,780			59 1 3																	
1	Stis	10	25	60			0 4 9																	
1	Firewood	110	23	315			2 3 3																	
1	Line	200	138	300			2 1 0																	
1	Passengers			90			1 8 6																	
1	Mix	1,498	3,255	5,080			39 9 6																	
1	Red	10	10	25			0 2 6																	
1	Vegetables	133	78	320			1 9 0																	
1	Medial-wood	40	9	80			0 6 3																	
		10,818	27,131	34,425	1,229 1/2		229 5 3	9		729	259	945	33 1/2	877 1/2	7 5 6	402		11,547	27,390	1,263	32,890	236 10 9		

N.B.—The tonnage shown above is that of the boats and not of the cargo.

G. A. SEARLE, Lieut.-Col., S.C.,
Offg. Asst. to Chief Engineer and Joint-Secretary, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch, Bengal.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.**EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—MAIN LINE.***Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 13th January 1872, on 1,280 miles open.*

	COACHING TRAFFIC.			MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.				Total traffic receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.			
		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Total traffic for ~~the~~ week ...	90,392	1,51,840 2 10	18,918 13 8	724,191 30	4,70,780 0 9	43,154 16 9	57,073 10 5	
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	118 10 6	10 17 6	.....	367 12 9	33 14 3	44 11 9	
For previous week of half-year ...	80,886	1,40,754 0 10	12,002 10 2	716,746 30	4,79,767 15 6	43,978 14 7	56,881 4 9	
• Total for 2 weeks ...	171,278	2,92,594 12 8	20,821 3 10	1,440,938 20	9,50,548 0 8	87,133 11 4	113,954 15 2	
COMPARISON.								
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	96,042	1,35,309 12 0	12,403 8 0	617,760 10	3,38,778 3 10	31,054 13 5	43,458 1 5	
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	105 12 0	9 13 11	.....	264 12 5	24 5 5	33 19 4	
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	185,182½	2,07,818 6 1	24,550 0 5	1,180,469 30	6,90,800 0 1	63,328 16 8	87,878 17 1	

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—JUBBULPORE LINE.*Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 13th January 1872, on 22½ miles open.*

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week ...	5,900	17,818 2 8	1,633 6 8	78,024 10	27,506 2 0	2,529 12 11	4,102 19 7
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	79 14 5	7 6 6	.....	123 12 0	11 6 10	19 13 4
For previous week of half-year ...	4,266	12,342 8 9	1,131 8 0	62,845 10	17,803 5 3	1,631 10 5	2,763 7 5
Total for 2 weeks ...	10,166	30,160 11 5	2,764 14 8	140,869 20	45,309 7 3	4,161 13 4	6,866 7 0
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	5,209	15,474 6 10	1,418 0 10	38,232 0	8,331 9 7	763 14 7	2,182 4 5
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	69 6 3	6 7 3	.....	37 5 10	3 8 6	9 15 9
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	11,546½	34,533 8 6	3,165 11 6	67,237 20	16,662 3 4	1,527 7 5	4,692 18 11

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.*Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 13th January 1872, on 156½ miles open.*

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week ...	30,400½	17,596 7 3	1,613 0 2	75,592 28	16,365 7 11	1,409 5 1	3,112 5 3
Or per mile of railway ...	194	112 7 0	10 6 2	483 0	104 8 1	9 11 7	19 17 9
For previous 1 week of half-year ...	27,034½	19,448 7 3	1,782 15 6	85,586 33½	19,556 1 1	2,792 12 9	3,575 8 3
Total for 2 weeks ...	57,435	37,044 14 6	3,395 15 8	161,179 21½	35,911 9 0	4,201 17 10	6,687 13 6
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	25,267	14,683 13 5	1,345 14 11	80,861 32	14,449 9 5	1,324 10 11	2,670 5 10
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	161	93 12 11	8 12 0	574 0	92 5 3	8 9 3	17 1 3
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	53,480	30,851 1 1	2,828 0 4	192,946 14	41,049 3 4	3,762 16 10	6,590 17 2

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.*Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 13th January 1872, on 28 miles open.*

		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week ...	7,200½	1,097 9 9	109 15 3	10,897 20	339 4 6	33 18 6	143 13 9
Or per mile of railway ...	257	39 3 8	3 18 5	389 0	12 1 10	1 4 3	5 2 8
For previous 14 weeks of half-year ...	70,625	11,627 13 0	1,162 15 7	165,844 30	5,221 1 0	522 2 1	1,684 17 8
Total for 15 weeks ...	83,934½	12,725 6 9	1,272 10 10	176,742 10	5,560 5 0	550 0 7	1,828 11 5
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	8,028	1,256 4 9	125 12 7	7,584 15	234 9 3	23 9 2	140 1 9
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	287	44 13 10	4 9 8	270 35	8 6 0	0 16 9	5 0 6
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	84,672½	13,740 8 6	1,374 1 0	186,479 28	5,432 0 8	543 4 1	1,917 5 1

No. 6

of 1872



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1872.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

The Council met in the Council Chamber on Saturday, the 3rd February 1872.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *presiding*.
J. GRAHAM, Esq., *Advocate-General*.
V. H. SCHALCH, Esq.,
H. L. DAMPIER, Esq.,
S. C. BAYLEY, Esq.,
C. E. BERNARD, Esq.,
MOULVIE ABDOL LUTEEF, KHAN BAHADOOR,
BABOO DIGUMBER MITTER,
B. D. COLVIN, Esq.,
T. M. ROBINSON, Esq.,
F. F. WYMAN, Esq.,

and

RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE, BAHADOOR.

JUTE WAREHOUSES: FIRE-BRIGADE.

On the motion of MR. BERNARD the Council proceeded with the further consideration of the report of the select committee in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill.

Section 11 having been read by the President—

MR. DAMPIER said he had to propose a slight verbal alteration. He thought that in the three penal sections that followed section 10, rather close attention was required to understand the distinction that was drawn between the several cases which they were intended to meet. It appeared to him, however, that what was intended was not clearly expressed. The 11th section imposed a penalty for continuing to use a place for storing jute after the 31st July next, without taking out a license under this Act, that was to say, without changing the old license which was presumably held from the Justices before the passing of this Act. Then section 12 imposed a higher penalty on any one who used a jute warehouse as a jute warehouse, which had never been so used before the 31st of July. It was the wording of this section particularly that had attracted his attention, and which he thought did not express its meaning very clearly. The 13th section imposed a penalty for a still more gross case, where the Justices had been applied to for a license, and had absolutely refused to grant it. If Mr. Dampier might be allowed to take section 12 first, it would explain what he meant. The wording of this section was, "Any person who shall without a license use any jute warehouse, for keeping or depositing jute or cotton, established after the commencement of this Act, shall be liable, on conviction before a Magistrate, &c." But if the Council would refer to the interpretation of the words "jute warehouse," they would find that, as it now stood, there was no sense in the section. The words "jute warehouse" meant "any warehouse, store depôt, yard, godown, or other place used for the storing, keeping, pressing, or depositing of jute or cotton or other substance for the time being subject to the operation of this Act." Now, with that interpretation, the section as it now stood would mean that any person who for the first time used for the storing of jute a place which had been used for that purpose before! This, Mr. Dampier would submit, did not make sense. Any premises to be a jute warehouse within the meaning of the interpretation section, must have been used for the storing of jute. He would therefore suggest that the words from the second line, "any jute warehouse for keeping or depositing jute or cotton established after" be omitted, and that the words "as a jute warehouse any land or premises which have not been so used before" be substituted for them.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT had no objection to the motion being put on the principle of better late than never; still he thought it proper to represent that it was extremely inconvenient that these matters, which were purely matters of drafting, should be brought forward without any notice. He had at the last meeting of the Council impressed upon hon'ble members the necessity of giving notice of the amendments which were to be brought forward in order that they might be carefully considered in reference to their bearing on the whole Bill. He did therefore trust that hon'ble members who had such motions to make would be good enough to give the Council notice, in order that these matters might be properly considered. However, as he had great confidence in the hon'ble member who had proposed this amendment, he had no objection to put it to the Council.

MR. BERNARD thought that the section did not need amendment, as it was sufficiently clear without it.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT thought it more regular to consider the sections consecutively, and that section 11 should be considered first.

The motion was then by leave withdrawn.

Section 11 provided a penalty for using a jute warehouse without a license after the 31st July next.

MR. WYMAN said this section provided a penalty on the occupier of a jute warehouse for using it as such after the 31st July. It might often happen, in the case of short leases, that the owner of the building might positively refuse to make the alterations required under the Act. The tenant, on the other hand, would have no power to do so without the owner's consent; or the owner might say that it was clearly no business of his, and the tenant might thus be saddled with an unprofitable lease for the remainder of his tenure. It appeared to Mr. Wyman that the tenant should be protected either by the law compelling the owner to render

the building fit for a jute warehouse under the Act, or permitting the tenant, on the refusal of the owner to do so, to cancel the lease. This section introduced a most stringent provision regarding which the tenant had no knowledge when he took the premises. Mr. Wyman would therefore move the substitution of the word "owner" for "person" in line 1, and the insertion after the word "use" in line 3 of the words "or permits to be used," the effect of which would be to throw upon the owner of the premises the responsibility of bringing the premises into a fit state for use as a jute warehouse. He did not think that such a provision would be hard, because the premises would be thereby improved, and would always be lettable for the purpose. If the Council accepted this amendment, section 2 would also require amendment.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said it seemed to him utterly impossible to exempt the occupier altogether from liability under this section. He thought both the owner and occupier might be held responsible for using an unlicensed warehouse. He would suggest that the hon'ble member should confine himself to his second amendment, which would have the effect of making both the owner and occupier liable under the section. But if this amendment were carried, a fresh clause would be necessary to regulate the position of owners and occupiers, and absolving the occupier from loss in case the owner neglected to conform to the conditions of the Act.

MR. DAMPIER said he thought the proposed amendment would open a door to all sorts of difficulties. A proprietor who had let his premises without any stipulation that they were to be used as a jute warehouse or for any other particular purpose, would have no authority to interfere with his tenant unless a specific section were introduced in the law, giving him authority to do so.

MR. ROBINSON said, he thought the insertion of the words proposed would make the law operate harshly upon the landlord, for how was he to prevent the occupier from using the premises as a jute warehouse? He could not go beyond the terms of his lease, and he would have no power whatever over his tenant during the currency of the lease, and could not interfere in any way with the tenant's action.

MR. WYMAN said it would be optional with the owner to effect these improvements, but they would manifestly effect a great improvement in the owner's property; while on the other hand they would be impossible conditions for the tenant to fulfil, and if the owner did not effect the necessary improvements, the tenant's business would be shut up. If the owner did not comply with the provisions of the Act, and render the premises effective against fire, the tenant's lease ought to be cancelled, as the law said that he must not carry on his business except under certain conditions.

MR. BERNARD said that the hon'ble mover of the amendment considered that the provisions of this Bill would operate with hardship on the occupiers of existing jute warehouses, and he proposed to transfer to owners the duty of fulfilling the requirements of the law. But such a provision might press very hardly upon owners. Suppose the premises in which 100 or 200 drums of jute were stored was worth Rs. 500: the owner would probably have to convert the godown into a brick-house, with an iron or masonry roof and iron beams, for the Justices would have power under the Bill to impose on existing warehouses all the conditions which were applicable to new warehouses; and he might have to expend thousands of rupees on such a work, even though the occupier's tenancy might have but two years to run. He considered it would never do to throw on the owners of small warehouses of that kind the obligation of putting them into a fit condition for the storage of jute.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT thought the hon'ble member should bring on this motion as a separate provision after having given due notice thereof.

Mr. Wyman then by leave withdrew his motion, and intimated his intention to adopt the suggestion of the President.

The Section was then agreed to; and so also was section 12.

Section 13 was agreed to.

Section 14 provided a penalty for introducing in a jute warehouse fire or lucifer matches "in a manner which is not authorized by the conditions of the license granted for such place."

Mr. WYMAN moved the omission of the words printed in italics. He thought that that provision overlooked the provision in section 7, which prescribed that no artificial light or lucifer matches should be introduced in a jute warehouse, and that no person should smoke therein; but the section under consideration permitted them to do so in a particular manner. He thought it very undesirable that it should be permitted at all, and it ought to be distinctly understood that no one should be allowed to smoke or introduce lucifer matches in a jute warehouse.

Mr. BERNARD observed that the Council had already provided for the introduction of fire by the clause which related to engines and furnaces, for by the interpretation clause "warehouse" included the land or yard belonging to it; and it would not do to provide by the present section that no fire should be introduced in a jute warehouse.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said there did seem to him to be some objection to the section as it stood. He thought the objection would be met by the omission of the words suggested by the hon'ble member, and the introduction of the words "in contravention of his license" at the beginning of the section, after the word "whoever."

Mr. Wyman's and the Advocate-General's amendments were then agreed to. Section 15 was agreed to.

Section 16 authorized "the Justices" to frame bye-laws for certain purposes.

MR. WYMAN said this section gave the Justices, or as the Act might be interpreted, the Chairman of the Justices, power to frame bye-laws. He thought that it was by an oversight that the power given under this section was not restricted to the Justices *at a meeting*. For the same reasons which he had urged at the last meeting of the Council, he thought it was desirable, in matters concerning public rights and interests, that this power should be conferred on the body of Justices and not on the Chairman. As the section stood, it would be quite possible for the Chairman to frame bye-laws on his own will and responsibility. He would therefore move the insertion of the words "at a special meeting" after the word "Justices."

MR. SCHALCH said section 218 of Act VI of 1863 enacted that it should be lawful for the "Justices" from time to time to make bye-laws, and a subsequent section provided that such bye-laws should not have any force or effect until they were approved by the Lieutenant-Governor. Mr. Schalch did not see why we should make a distinction as regards bye-laws framed under this Bill. He thought the provision in the Bill was sufficient, for although the Chairman was authorized to exercise all the powers of the Justices not directed to be exercised by the Justices *at a meeting*, it was competent to the Justices by resolution to direct that in matters of this kind the Chairman should not exercise their powers. Practically there had been no bye-laws which were not made by the Justices at a meeting.

HIS HONOR the PRESIDENT said that he understood the Council at the last meeting had thought fit to restrict many of the powers conferred by the Bill to the Justices at a special meeting. It did therefore seem inconsistent, if we required the Justices at a meeting to lay down a scale of fees, to allow the most important power of framing bye-laws to be exercised otherwise than at a meeting.

MR. WYMAN said he could not admit the force of the argument that because the previous enactment did not provide that the power of making bye-laws should be exercised only by the Justices at a meeting, we should not make a distinction in that respect in this Bill. He thought that such a distinction should be made as regards the important power of framing bye-laws. The Council had affirmed the principle of restricting certain other powers under this Bill to the Justices at a meeting, and he submitted that there was every reason that the same amendment should be made in this section in accordance with that principle.

The question being put, the Council divided :—

AYES—6.

Mr. Wyman.
Moulvy Abdool Luteef.
Mr. Bernard.
„ Dampier.
The Advocate-General.
The President.

NOES—6.

Mr. Colvin.
Baboo Digumber Mitter.
Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore.
Mr. Robinson.
„ Schalch.
„ Bayley.

The numbers being equal, the President gave his casting vote with the ayes.

The motion was therefore carried.

MR. WYMAN then moved that paragraph (1), which was as follows, be left out :
“giving of gratuities to persons who have given notice of fires.” He was aware that that clause was in the English Act, when it was at one time considered desirable to give gratuities to persons who might afford early intimation of the occurrence of fires, but he understood that that provision was now felt to be unnecessary. He believed that the provision was introduced for affording assistance to insurance companies, who were largely interested in the prevention of fires. There was therefore very good reason for the introduction of such a provision in England; but a like state of things did not apply to Calcutta. The fire-brigade here would be under the superintendence of the municipality, who had no personal interest. He would direct the attention of the Council to a case which occurred not many weeks ago in which a man was convicted of having set fire to buildings with the view of obtaining a reward for giving early intimation of the occurrence of the fire, and it was ascertained that the man had earned a large income in this way. It was quite possible therefore, if a gratuity was given for early intimation of fires, that low classes of men, such as coolies and the like, would set fire to houses with the view of obtaining a reward. Some years ago, when the city was filled with thatched villages, it was almost a constant occurrence for fires to take place, and it was believed that the *gharamees* set the houses on fire in order to be employed in rebuilding them. The omission of this provision would avoid the inducement to evil disposed persons; and as Mr. Wyman could not see any necessity for giving gratuities, and the provision might have some such undesirable result as that which he had referred to, he would wish to avoid the possibility of its having any such result. Any rightly disposed person would give notice of the occurrence of a fire without expecting a reward, and the omission of any provision of the kind would have the effect of making the police feel that it was incumbent upon them to keep a constant watch over the town, and that they would themselves be held responsible for giving early intimation of fires.

MR. SCHALCH pointed out that the next amendment, of which the hon'ble member had himself given notice, would admit of rewards being given for early notice of the occurrence of fires. It was besides in the power of the Commissioner of Police to give rewards when he thought it proper to do so. Mr. Schalch thought it very desirable that when a man gave early notice of the occurrence of a fire he ought to get some reward.

MR. WYMAN said that with regard to the amendment which he proposed to move in paragraph (2), he might observe that that paragraph gave power to confer rewards in exceptional cases. His objection was to the giving of gratuities for simply giving notice of fires.

The Council then divided :—

AYES 4.

Mr. Wyman.
Baboo Digumber Mitter.
Mr. Bernard.
„ Dampier.

NOES 8.

Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore.
Mr. Colvin.
„ Robinson.
Moulvy Abdool Luteef.
Mr. Bayley.
„ Schalch.
The Advocate-General.
The President.

The motion was therefore negatived.

MR. WYMAN said the object of his amendment in paragraph (2) was twofold. This clause appeared to him to provide for the awarding of gratuities in

exceptional cases—a power to give gratuities not simply to those giving timely notice of fires, but to other persons deserving of reward. He would illustrate his meaning by an occurrence which had taken place not long ago in England, when it happened that a fireman lost his life, and another person, who was not an officer of the fire-brigade, was seriously injured; he acted in a most courageous manner, and the result was that he died from the effects of the injuries he had received: the papers were full of his courage and bravery in risking his life when he himself was not a member of the fire-brigade. The fireman's widow and children were provided for; but for the family of the other man, who lost his life under these distressing circumstances, no provision of the kind was made, and his widow and children were left to be provided for by public subscription. The result was that a small amount was subscribed amongst the class to whom the man belonged (the poorer class), but a quite insufficient amount, showing the necessity of some legal provision for such cases. There was no question of the relative bravery of the two men—the man not in the brigade was said to have exceeded the fireman in courage and bravery; yet the provision for one man's family was secure, whilst the other was left to public charity. It might happen that a similar case might occur in Calcutta, and if it did, this provision of the Bill would not allow of any assistance being given in such a desirable case.

The amendment was then agreed to, and the section as amended was passed.

Section 17 prescribed the powers of the fire-brigade in cases of fire.

MR. WYMAN moved the addition to the section of the following words:—

“The Chief Officer on the spot in charge of the brigade may verbally nominate and depute one or more officers of the brigade to act at a distance, and such officer or officers shall have, for the time being, the like powers as the Chief Officer himself possesses under this section.”

He said he did not know whether the practical effect of the amendment would make much difference, but he believed that literally it would make a great difference. Under the section as it stood, the only person who could exercise the powers conferred on the brigade was the Chief Officer on the spot. Mr. Wyman would leave the learned Advocate-General to say whether he (Mr. Wyman) was correct in saying that nobody but the Chief Officer on the spot could exercise those provisions. If Mr. Wyman was right in his construction, then he thought that the Chief Officer should have authority to delegate his powers to some other officer of the brigade whom he might direct to act at a distance. A fire might extend over a distance of half a mile; the Chief Officer would probably be at the centre, but there might be urgent necessity to put down the fire at a place half a mile off, and Mr. Wyman thought that under such circumstances the Chief Officer ought to have power to delegate his authority to another officer of the brigade. It might frequently happen that in cases of large fires, unless this power was given, the conflagration would extend with frightful rapidity. Unless the learned Advocate-General was of opinion that such a power could be exercised under the section as it stood, Mr. Wyman thought the words which he proposed should be added to the section.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that the section did certainly seem to limit the exercise of the powers conferred under it to the Chief or other officer on the spot; but whether it was desirable to give those powers to other officers deputed by the Chief Officer was a question for the consideration of the Council. As the section stood, the only person who could give orders was the Chief or other officer on the spot.

MR. ROBINSON said, he thought the amendment unnecessary, as the words of the section were very general, and gave power to the Chief Officer by himself or his men to break into or through, or pull down any premises, &c.

MR. WYMAN said, he presumed that the Chief Officer would not know what was occurring at one end of the fire, and things that were necessary to be done and which he would do if he were aware of the circumstances, would perhaps remain undone, as a junior officer would probably not like to take the responsibility of acting on his own authority.

MOULVY ABDOL LUTEEF said, he considered that the powers already proposed to be given to the chief officer regarding the pulling down of houses were very serious, and he therefore thought that it was not further desirable to allow the chief officer to delegate such powers to a person who held a position inferior to his own.

The amendment was then carried after the following division, and the section as amended was agreed to:—

AYES—7.

Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore.
Mr. Wyman.
„ Schaleh.
„ Bayley.
„ Dampier.
The Advocate-General.
The President.

NOES—5.

Mr. Colvin.
Baboo Digumbar Mitter.
Mr. Robinson.
Moulvy Abdool Lutef.
Mr. Bernard.

Section 18 related to inquiries into the origin of fires.

MR. WYMAN said the process provided by this section appeared to him to be very circumlocutory. It required, first, that the Chief Officer should ascertain the facts, then that he should make a report to the Justices, then that he should summon witnesses, and if he were not able to procure their attendance, then he was to apply to the Magistrate for assistance to enable him to do so. It seemed to him that instead of all this roundabout way of going to work, the proper officer to conduct the inquiry was the Coroner, who had the power of doing all these things which it was proposed should be done by the Chief Officer; and by his knowledge and experience the Coroner was probably a fitter officer for the conduct of such inquiries than the Chief Officer, who after all would have to go to the Magistrate for assistance in procuring the attendance of witnesses. Mr. Wyman thought therefore that the employment of the Coroner for the investigation of such inquiries would be an advantage to the public, especially as he would have the assistance of a jury. Mr. Wyman would therefore move that all the words after the words “report thereon to the” in line 6 be omitted, and that the words “Coroner, who shall at his discretion hold an inquest into the cause of such fire,” be substituted for them.

MR. BERNARD said he thought that the Chief Officer of the Fire-brigade was the proper person to conduct the investigation into such inquiries. If the duty were made over to the Coroner, who was also a Magistrate, the Council would have to consider whether the enquiry should be made with the aid of a jury, or how. Such inquiries were not in the nature of judicial investigations; they were merely to be undertaken with the object of making a report to the Justices. He thought that these investigations would be better, more quickly, and more satisfactorily conducted if they were left to the Chief Officer of the Fire-brigade.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said, he had not had time to give so much attention to all the amendments on the paper as he would have wished, but he thought it very desirable that these inquiries should be made by a responsible public officer; his apprehension was that the inquiry should be of a judicial character, and should be made by a judicial officer, and he thought the magistrate might make the inquiry.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said in England there was an obsolete jurisdiction in the Coroner in such cases, but he believed it had been very seldom exercised. The functions, powers, and duties of Coroners in England were defined by the Act of 33 Geo. III, c. 137; but the operation of that statute in India had been repealed by the Coroner's Act of 1871, and he had now no such jurisdiction here: that he had it previously, was even doubtful. By the Coroner's Act of 1871 his functions and duties were defined, and these inquests into the origin of fires was no part of his duty; he had simply to hold inquests upon deaths. The Advocate-General thought, moreover, that there was no good ground for investing the Coroner with these powers now; but it seemed to him very desirable to have an inquiry before a Magistrate, who was a responsible judicial officer. By requiring the Coroner to hold these investigations, his duties would be greatly increased, and his salary would have to be increased proportionately.

MR. BAYLEY said, there appeared to him to be another difficulty in the way of appointing the Coroner to make these inquiries. The Coroner and his jury would only have jurisdiction in Calcutta; the Chief Officer of the Fire-brigade, on the other hand, would exercise jurisdiction in the suburbs as well as in Calcutta. If an inquiry was to be held in the suburbs, it must be held either by the magistrate or the Chief Officer of the Fire-brigade.

After some further conversation, Mr. Wyman's motion was put and negatived.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT the words "magistrate of police of the town or division of the town in which such fire shall have occurred, and the said magistrate shall have power to summon witnesses and take evidence in order to the due ascertainment of such facts," were substituted for the words proposed to be omitted; and the section as amended was agreed to.

Section 20 empowered the "Commissioner of Police" to grant licenses for the sale or manufacture of fire-works.

MR. WYMAN moved the substitution of the word "Justices" for "Commissioner of Police." He said, his object in proposing this amendment was because he thought it was the duty of the police to control the letting-off of fire-works in the town, and not to grant licenses for their sale or manufacture. He proposed that this power should be exercised by the Justices, and not by the Justices "at a meeting," because it was not necessary for the Justices at a meeting to grant these licenses. It might be urged that the Commissioner of Police and the Chairman of the Justices were one and the same person; but that might not always be the case, and he therefore thought the amendment he proposed should be made.

HIS HONOR the PRESIDENT said, that it appeared to him that these were executive functions, which ought properly to be exercised by the Commissioner of Police, whether the Commissioner of Police and the Chairman of the Justices were one officer or not; and the section was designedly drawn with that view.

The motion was then negatived, and the section passed as it stood.

Sections 21 and 22 were agreed to.

Section 23 gave the Commissioner of Police power to withdraw licenses granted by him under the Act.

MR. WYMAN moved the substitution of the words "Justices of the Peace at a special meeting" for the words "Commissioner of Police." He said, he proposed this amendment on the ground that the Commissioner of Police should not have the power to suspend any license. He thought that even if the power of granting a license was vested in the Commissioner of Police, the power of withdrawing it should be vested in the Justices at a meeting. The Council had affirmed the principle that the granting of these licenses should be in the hands of the Commissioner of Police, and it might be urged that there was no reason why the power to withdraw them should not be vested in the same officer. But Mr. Wyman thought that there was a great difference between the power to grant a license and the power to withdraw it. He thought that when a license was once granted, the power to withdraw it should be vested in a competent body, and not in the person who granted it. The arbitrary exercise of such a power might result in serious injustice to an individual, and therefore he thought we could not surround the power of withdrawal with too many safeguards.

MR. BAYLEY said, that he could not conceive any worse body to try these petty cases than the Justices in special meeting. He would always have these cases exercised by an executive officer of high standing, like the Commissioner of Police. He thought that in the early parts of the Bill the Council had gone a great deal too far in insisting on the Justices at a meeting deciding all these points of executive detail.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that he thought the withdrawal of a license of this kind was entirely an executive matter; the granting of these licenses was entrusted to the Commissioner of Police, and therefore the power of withdrawing them ought to be entrusted to the same authority.

The motion was then negatived, and the section was passed as it stood.

Sections 24 and 25 were agreed to.

Section 26 provided that Insurance Companies should contribute, towards the expenses of the Fire-brigade, a sum at the rate of half a rupee for every "thousand" rupees of the gross amount insured by it in respect of property insured from fire.

MR. BERNARD explained that the rate paid in London was £35 for every million sterling of property insured. As the premia paid in Calcutta was at a somewhat higher rate than the premia paid in London, it was considered that a fair rate to be paid here by Insurance Companies would be £50 in every million sterling, which would come exactly to half a rupee in every "ten thousand" rupees. MR. BERNARD would therefore move the insertion of the word "ten" before the word "thousand."

The motion was agreed to, and the section as amended was passed.

Sections 27, 28, and 29 were agreed to.

Section 30 empowered the Lieutenant-Governor, on the recommendation of the "Justices," to declare the warehousing of any other substance to be subject to the provisions of this Act.

On the motion of MR. WYMAN, the words "passed by resolution" were inserted after the word "Justices," so as to make the recommendation of the Justices an act of the Justices *in meeting*.

On the motion of MR. COLVIN, the following section was introduced after section 30 and the latter part of the first paragraph of section 15 requiring the Justices to make an annual report of the manner in which the provisions of Parts III and IV of the Act had been carried out, was omitted:

"The Justices and Municipal Commissioners respectively shall make a report to the Lieutenant-Governor as soon as conveniently may be after the 31st July next, showing how the provisions of this Act have been carried out, and specifying the jute warehouses in respect of which licenses have been granted: and such report shall be forthwith published in the *Calcutta Gazette*. And thereafter the Justices and Municipal Commissioners shall make a like report once a year at such time as the Lieutenant-Governor shall direct."

Section 31 related to the power of arrest.

MR. WYMAN said, this section provided for the arrest of a person whose name and address were unknown. But he thought provision should also be made for the arrest of a person whose name and address were known, but who the arresting officer might have reason to believe was about to place himself beyond the jurisdiction of the Magistrate. It appeared to him very undesirable that dishonest persons who committed serious offences should be allowed an opportunity of placing themselves beyond the jurisdiction, and thus escape punishment for their offences.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said, surely the law upon this point was strong enough as it was. If the address of a person who had committed an offence was unknown, he would be taken into custody; but if it was known, why not allow the law to take its course in respect to offences under this Act as in all other cases? On the other hand, by the amendment proposed, you would leave it to the police officer to say that it was probable that the offender would abscond. In nine cases out of ten the police officer would say that the offender's appearance on process was improbable. The Advocate-General did not see any reason why an exception should be made as to offences committed under this Act.

The motion was then negatived.

MR. WYMAN also moved the addition to the section of the words "provided that the arresting officer shall be a sworn constable."

After some conversation this amendment was also negatived, and the section was passed as it stood.

Sections 32 and 33 were agreed to.

MR. WYMAN moved the introduction of the following new section after section 33:—

"It shall be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to appoint a court or courts in which Justices of the Peace for Calcutta may sit and determine in a summary manner cases under the several Municipal Acts referred to in this Act and under this Act itself which may be determined by a Justice of the Peace."

He said it appeared to him that a section of this kind was necessitated by the form in which the interpretation of the word "Magistrate" now stood in

the Bill. By section 2 "Magistrate" included a justice of the peace for Calcutta, and any person exercising all or any of the powers of a magistrate. By Act IV of 1866, section 22, the Lieutenant-Governor had power to define the number and extent of police districts, and establish a police court in and for each of such districts. It also empowered the Lieutenant-Governor to appoint a sufficient number of fit persons as magistrates of police for the town, who might sit and act as magistrates in any of the said police courts. But if the present Bill was passed without some such provision as that which he had suggested, the justices who had power to act as magistrates under this Bill would not be compelled to sit in any court at all: they might sit in their own houses, and exercise their powers under this Act. But, apart from what was the case as regards former Acts, the Council had to consider whether the justices would have authority to sit in a court authorized by the Government. If Mr. Wyman was correct in his interpretation of the law, he would press the amendment of which he had given notice.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT observed that the amendment proposed would affect the whole jurisdiction of the justices of the peace, and its operation would not be confined to cases tried by them under this Bill.

MR. SCHALCH said, when justices of the peace were first appointed under Act VI of 1863, it was supposed that a justice could in the course of his morning walk exercise his jurisdiction and summarily convict any person whom he might find committing an offence. Mr. Schalch was not quite sure whether a regular reference was made on the subject, but he believed that it came to be understood that a justice of the peace could not do so unless he was acting judicially, and that he could not act judicially unless he was sitting in a regularly constituted court. He believed that the justices who had exercised judicial powers always sat in the police court.

MR. WYMAN said that he had not supposed for a moment that the general interpretation would be other than what had been stated, that a Justice of the Peace was only a Justice when he was sitting judicially in the police court. It seemed to be supposed that because that had been the general interpretation, the matter should be left to be decided by the good sense that had hitherto prevailed; but it seemed to him that that was not the way in which a law should be framed: on that principle he thought a great many laws might be done away with. As he could not accede to such a doctrine, he thought that some such amendment as that which he had proposed was necessary.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said that it seemed very clear to him that the hon'ble member's object was to amend the law on the subject of the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace in all matters. His Honor thought that that was not a matter that was specially connected with this Bill, and that if the hon'ble member wished to raise the question, he should do so by the introduction of a distinct and separate measure.

The motion was then by leave withdrawn; but Mr. Wyman stated that he considered the matter of such importance that he should avail himself hereafter of His Honor the President's permission to introduce a Bill to amend the existing law.

Section 34 and the postponed section 2 were then agreed to.

The postponed section 3 was passed after verbal amendments.

The postponed section 1 and the preamble and title were agreed to.

On the motion of MOULVY ABDOL LUTEEF the words "or the Municipal Commissioners at a meeting respectively" were inserted after the word "Commissioners" in line 9 of section 10, by which section the Municipal Commissioners of the Suburbs and of Howrah were invested with the same powers as the Justices under the Act.

HIS HONOR the PRESIDENT said that as the Council had now gone through all the clauses of the Bill, he thought it was desirable that the Bill should be reprinted, and that the Council should have another opportunity of considering the Bill as a whole.

The Council was then adjourned to Saturday, the 10th instant.

Baronee Fair.

No. 17, dated Dacca, the 24th January 1872.

From—F. B. SIMSON, Esq., Commissioner of the Dacca Division,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department.

I HAVE the honor to submit herewith, in original, a letter, No. 140, dated 16th instant, from the Magistrate of Dacca, with its enclosure, being a report on the Moonsheegunge Baronee fair, held about the close of 1871, from the Deputy Magistrate of Moonsheegunge.

2. Great sickness was predicted, and though it prevailed generally in the district, and several cases of cholera existed in Dacca, the fair seems to have been healthier than even in towns and villages. This is of course owing to conservancy rules, which have been strictly carried out for three years. From what I see of their efficacy, I think that bad villages should be placed under conservancy rules, by legal enactment, one or two at a time; possibly before long, like the Baronee fair, instead of being remarkable for intense sickness they might become as noted for freedom from disease.

No. 140, dated Dacca, the 16th January 1872.

From—D. R. LYALL, Esq., Officiating Magistrate of Dacca.

To—The Commissioner of Dacca.

I BEG to forward herewith copy of a report received from the deputy magistrate of Moonsheegunge regarding the Baronee fair of this year.

2. I anticipated a very considerable amount of sickness this year, as cholera was prevalent to a considerable extent here in the town, and to a smaller extent at Naraingunge before the fair began. For this reason chiefly I thought it better to send the joint-magistrate to the fair at the commencement of the real concourse of the people (those before the beginning of December being chiefly bathers, who resided but a day or two), in order to secure more perfect conservancy arrangements than the deputy magistrate could manage with his time divided between his own work and the fair. I visited the fair some days after Mr. Rampini took charge, and found everything in perfect order, and I have to thank Mr. Rampini for the trouble he took in the matter.

3. The result has been most satisfactory, as there has not been a single death from sickness (a constable died of over drinking, but that had nothing to do with the fair).

4. The length of street remarked on in the deputy magistrate's paragraph 3 was, I consider, a great gain in a sanitary point of view, as the people were more scattered, and the street being in a single line both front and back could be properly looked after. It is when the backs of two lines of street are together that it is difficult to ensure cleanliness.

5. The point alluded to in the 12th paragraph of the deputy magistrate's letter is one which I consider is impossible, as things are at present, to carry out, and I therefore issued no instruction.

6. Baboo Krishen Chunder Rai has exercised proper supervision over the fair while he was in charge, and has shown considerable energy. He deserves my best thanks.

7. Prag Dutt, sub-inspector, was in charge of the police, and as usual has done good service. In fact, the fair was at one time for some days entirely in his charge, while the deputy magistrate was out on an investigation I directed him to make. He fully understands and carries out the orders given him, and without any unnecessary bother to the people.

8. Paragraph 10 of the deputy magistrate's letter is satisfactory, as showing that the people are beginning to see sanitation rules are not made solely to annoy them, as they appeared to think at first.

9. I am unable to submit the accounts with this report, as they are not yet complete, several medical items being yet not received. They will be submitted in due course.

No. 13, dated Moonsheegunge, the 16th January 1872.

From—BABOO KRISHNA CHANDRA RAI, Deputy Magistrate of Moonsheegunge.

To—the Magistrate of Dacca.

I HAVE the honor to submit the following report on the Kartik Baronee fair held on the chur below Rikabi bazar, close to the head-quarters of the Moonsheegunge sub-division, during the months of November and December 1871 and January 1872.

2. The fair commenced as usual with the bathing festival, which took place on the 26th November, corresponding with 11th Aghran 1278, i.e., on the last day of the moon's age (purnimá or full moon), which was the day on which the Hindu festival "Rash" takes place. The number of bathers was estimated at about 1,300 to 1,400 persons, mostly women from the districts of Backergunge, Tipperah, and Sylhet; the bathers were comparatively very few from Bickrampore and other parts of Dacca. On a reference to the last year's report, I find the number of bathers was about 1,500 in 1870, and about 2,000 in 1869. The small

gathering of bathers this year was probably owing to the collection of boats for the Lushai expedition which took place in October last, and which caused an unfavorable report to be spread out, specially amongst the bathers, who were, as stated above, chiefly Hindu women.

3. Three or four days before the 24th November a few wood merchants came in and made their small huts on the east of the khâl between Moonsheegunge and the chur below Ricabi bazar and Mukhtarpore; they placed ordinary boat timbers and materials which they brought for sale on both the east and west sides of the khâl. The first arrivals of the shopkeepers were on Saturday, the 23rd November. When you visited the fair site, in company with the civil surgeon, on the 24th November, all the principal shopkeepers were present before you, and the site was selected by you with their consent; but shortly after you left the place, there was a difference between the cloth merchants and the banias, probably caused by the agents of the several shareholders of the chur, who were willing to have the main part of the fair on the sites of their respective employers. In consequence of this difference and a high competition amongst the zemindars of the chur, the site of the fair extended, as you have subsequently seen, in one straight line from Kamala ghât to the mouth of the Moonsheegunge khâl, a distance of about two miles if not more. The shops were built along the north and south sides of the chur, keeping a broad street of about fifty feet in the middle. In all the principal arrangements the fair was exactly as in the two previous years; the only deviation from last year's arrangement was on this point, *i.e.*, it was rather more lengthy this year than it was in 1869 and 1870.

4. From the 24th to the 30th November most of the merchants and shopkeepers came in and built their shops and commenced bringing goods, but the fair was not fully crowded with sellers and purchasers till the middle part of December. The *paikars*, *i.e.*, the principal purchasers, did not come till the end of the second week and beginning of the third week of December. This was owing to the Lushai expedition, which frightened the people of the neighbouring districts lest their boats be sent to Cachar. From the 15th December up to the end of the month the fair was full and business carried on very busily.

5. I was in charge of the fair from the commencement to the 2nd December, and from the 14th December till it closed. The joint-magistrate came here on the 2nd and was in charge till 13th December, when he left the place and went to the sudder station. A large staff of police, as noted in the margin, was deputed by you. The district superintendent visited the fair twice, and on both occasions his stay here was for short intervals. Dr. Wise came once with you on the 24th November, and once on the 30th December; on both occasions, as far as I could learn, he found no reason to complain—at least he expressed no unfavorable opinion in respect of the conservancy arrangements.

2 sub-inspectors.
5 head constables.
48 constables.
4 guard boats.

6. The police force under sub-inspectors Prag Dutta and Guru Das Dutta behaved in general well. I heard no complaint against any; only in one instance a shopkeeper complained against one of the constables placed in the outpost on the eastern limit of the fair. I made inquiries personally, and found that the constable was unnecessarily over strict with some shopkeepers, perhaps with no honest intention. I immediately placed him under sub-inspector Prag Dutta and ordered another constable to be sent to the outpost.

7. The printed rules sent with your letter No. 2107, dated 6th November, were strictly adhered to. Their purports were made known to all by beat of drums. Cleanliness was preserved to the utmost possible extent. Nineteen mehters were employed in keeping the trenches and generally the fair site clean. With reference to rule 6th, the sweepers were made to work both in the morning and evening. Vernacular copies of the paper A were posted in several conspicuous parts of the fair.

8. During the time the fair was under my charge, there were eight cases of nuisance, in which 37 persons were fined in small sums of one anna, two annas, and four annas; the fines amounted in all to Rs. 6-13. There was also one case of theft. A *pirhan* (shirt) was stolen from a shop. The offender was found with it three days after the occurrence, and on his confession, and on the evidence of two witnesses, who identified the stolen shirt, was sentenced to a whipping.

9. The number of shops was 983; number of boats 2,493; number of people, including visitors, about 70,000 to 75,000; the merchandise sold was about Rs. 19,14,679. A detailed list of the principal articles sold, with their value, is sent herewith. List marked A.

10. It is satisfactory to be able to state that almost all the shopkeepers and zemindars' agents now fully appreciate the benefit which resulted from the strict observance of the conservancy rules. I talked with all the principal shopkeepers and zemindars' gomastas, and they frankly confessed to me that they get a healthy fair now simply because there are strict conservancy rules. They are fully convinced that those rules alone prevented any outbreak of disease.

11. A general belief prevailed amongst many that the fair this year will be very thinly attended to, and that it will last only a few days. This was owing to an apprehension on account of a demand for boats and men for the Lushai expedition. No doubt it had interfered a little with the fair, but not to the extent reported out. I found only that the *paikars* and purchasers came late; but to make up for this, the fair lasted longer than usual. It lasted from the 24th November to the 10th January, *i.e.*, more than one month and a half.

12. In, one point I was not a strict observer of the rules laid down by Dr. Smith, *i.e.*, his recommendation that no prostitute should be allowed to come to the fair except provided with clean bills of health. My predecessor, Mr. Page, did not observe this last year, nor did I get any special instruction from you this year. The question was one of a delicate nature, and I could not find any practicable suggestion to submit to you beforehand. There were 38 prostitutes in the fair; they came from all the neighbouring village markets and some from Dacca.

13. The arrangement adopted last year for removing the nuisance occasioned by masses of floating weed on the river-bank was also followed this year with great success.

14. The amount of sickness this year was even comparatively less than what has been last year. No cases of fever came to my notice. There were only two admissions into the hospital; one during the time when the joint-magistrate was in charge. It was a case of diarrhoea, and the man remained under treatment for four days. He was cured and discharged on the 9th December. The second was a case of cholera. A woman aged about 35 years was attacked with cholera on the 25th December. She was immediately sent to the hospital. She remained under treatment for eight days and fully recovered, and was then discharged on the 2nd January. She got the sickness 20 days after her arrival into the fair. She came from thannah Hurrirampore. No death took place this year. There were two hospitals built a little way off from each of the eastern and western extremities of the fair. These were placed under the charge of two native doctors sent by the civil surgeon. As one of the native doctors was sick before he came here, the sub-divisional native doctor was kept in the fair from the commencement till the fair broke up.

No money was sent to me, and I disbursed nothing for the fair. I desired Prag Dutta to lay his accounts before you.

The printed papers sent with your letter No. 2107, dated 6th November, are herewith returned.

A.—List of the articles sold.

NAMES OF ARTICLES.	Rs.
Shall ornaments	13,814
Hooka (pipe for smoking)	8,540
Wood (sunder)... ..	7,360
Wooden chests... ..	2,750
Wooden plates and pans, &c.	6,850
Mooly bamboos... ..	3,400
Drums	1,100
Grinding stones	7,370
Shoes	16,750
Mats (pati, mandul, &c.)	14,050
Gold and silver ornaments... ..	58,000
Iron pans, &c.	2,120
Paper	2,900
Miscellaneous articles	1,89,825
Cloth	9,28,650
Brass, copper, utensils	1,63,000
Spices (including rocksalt)	4,20,000
Cinnamon leaves	38,000
Rice, dāl, oil, and goor, &c.	25,000
Fish	2,200
Nets	3,000
Total	19,14,679

N.B.—I have every reason to suspect that the shopkeepers, specially the cloth merchants, did not give the correct amount of their sale proceeds for fear of income tax assessments.

KRISHNA CHUNDRA RAI, *Deputy Magistrate.*

Rainfall, Weather and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather and State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of the Lower Provinces of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending 3rd February 1872.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station, in inches.	Character of the weather in the district, as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
		1872.				
1	Bhaugulpore	Feb. 3rd	0.3	Very favorable...	All very good. The rain has greatly benefited the crops and the cultivation operations generally.	
2	Monghyr	" 3rd	0.2	Rainy and stormy	Good. The crops do not appear to have suffered from the storms.	
3	Purneah	" 3rd	*	Rainy and cloudy	A full harvest is expected	* There has been rain, but the quantity not given.
4	Rajmehal	" 3rd	Slight	Hot for the season.	Wheat good; mustard fair; it is being gathered; other crops require rain.	
5	Deoghur	" 3rd	0	Cloudy	Satisfactory.	
6	Nya Doomka	" 3rd	0.3	Cloudy and warm	Urhur only is now on the ground.	
7	Godda	" 3rd	† Heavy shower.	Cloudy and warm	The rain has improved gram, linseed, khesary, and sugar-cane.	† No rain gauge.
8	Pakour	" 3rd	‡	Cloudy and rainy	Rain is injurious to the winter crops.	‡ Not given owing to the officer's absence at Rajmehal.
9	Jamtarra	" 3rd	0.5	Rainy and stormy	Mustard, the only crop on the ground, is poor for want of rain; it is being reaped.	
10	Patna	" 3rd	0.5	Partly cloudy and partly clear	Good.	
11	Gya	" 3rd	0	Fine	Thriving.	
12	Champanun.	" 3rd	0	Cloudy	Cloudiness and easterly wind have injured the wheat and mustard very much; poppy very uneven.	A westerly wind has set in latterly, which will do good.
13	Sarun	" 3rd	0	Cloudy	The winter crops promise well; the rain has injured the peas and mustard; for a full crop a steady west wind and a bright sun are required.	
14	Shahabad	" 3rd	0.5	Cloudy with easterly wind.	The rain has done the spring crops good; they are generally flourishing.	
15	Tirhoot	" 3rd	0.2	Fair and cold	The spring crops daily improving.	
16	Rajshahye	" 1st	0	Cloudy and warm	Mustard scanty for want of rain; very little of other cold weather crops grow in the district.	
17	Bograh.	" 3rd	0.6	Mornings cloudy and misty, and days are bright and clear.	Good.	
18	Dinagepore	" 3rd	0.4	Getting warmer...	Good.	
19	Maldah	" 3rd	0.4	Fair	Good.	
20	Moorshedabad	" 3rd	0.1	Seasonable, but rather warm.	Good.	A severe shock of earthquake at 1½ A.M. on 31st January 1872.
21	Pubna	" 3rd	0	Fine and warm	Only the tobacco remaining to be cut; it is good.	
22	Rungpore	" 3rd	0	Fair and rather warm for the season.	Favorable. Winter crops flourishing.	
23	Burdwan	" 3rd	0	Fair and rather warm for the season.	The rain has been too slight to be of any use to the crops which are suffering from want of it.	
24	Bancoorah	" 2nd	0.1	Cool and cloudy	The rain has improved the winter crops.	
25	Beerbhoom	" 3rd	1.3	Cool and fresh	Winter crops good.	
26	Hooghly	" 3rd	0	Clear	Satisfactory.	
27	Howrah	" 3rd	0	Favorable	Good.	
28	Midnapore	" 2nd	0	Fair	Not good as usual.	
29	Nuddea	" 3rd	0.1	Cloudy	Good.	
30	Jessore	" 2nd	0	Fair and warm	Winter crops satisfactory, and spring crops good.	
31	24-Pergunnahs	" 3rd	0	Fair		

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station, in inches.	Character of the weather in the district, as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
1872.						
32	Dacca	Feb. 3rd	0	Fair and dry	Good.	General health, good.
33	Backergunge	" 2nd	0	Fair and cold	Good. Rice nearly all cut.	
34	Furreeapore	" 3rd	0	Fair and pleasant	Good	
35	Mymensingh.					
36	Sylhet	Jan. 27th	0	Good	Very good.	
37	Cachar	" 27th	0.4	Fair and warm	Very good.	Exportation of rice to Ganjam continues, though lessened in some places.
38	Chittagong	" 27th	0	Fine and rather warm.	Winter crops fair.	
39	Noakhally or Bulloah	" 26th	0	Fair	Good.	
40	Tipperah.					
41	Hill Tracts of Chittagong.	" 27th	0	Foggy	Good.	
42	Cuttack	Feb. 3rd	0	Hot	Good generally.	
43	Balasore	" 3rd	0	Fair	Satisfactory.	
44	Pooree	Jan. 27th	0	Warm for the time of the year.	Good, except in the Chilka tracts of Parikud, &c.; rice all reaped; winter and spring miscellaneous crops poor for want of rain.	
45	Hazareebaugh	Feb. 3rd	0.6	Cloudy, fair, and warm at times.	Improved by the rain.	
46	Lohardugga	" 2nd	0.5	Cool	Spring crops benefited by the rain.	
47	Maunbhoom	" 3rd	0.3	Fine	Owing to want of rain there will be a loss of 8 annas in rice, 6 in spring crops, and 10 in mustard and other oil seeds.	Price of rice increasing.
48	Singbhoom	Jan. 26th	0	Dry and cold	Unfavorable for the pulses.	
49	Durrung	" 26th	0.5	Cloudy	Paddy and pulses reaped; sugar-cane and mustard doing well.	
50	Nowgong	" 26th	2.4	Cold	Spring crops promising well.	
51	Sebsaugor	" 27th	0.4	Cool, cloudy, damp, and foggy.	Satisfactory. Harvest is over, except of the winter crops.	
52	Kamroop	" 27th	1.7	Dry	Rice favorable.	
53	Luckimpore	" 27th	0.9	Fair	Satisfactory.	
54	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	" 26th	0	Fair	No crop standing, except a little cotton.	
55	Naga Hills	" 19th	0	Exceedingly fine	Nagas, Kukies, Kacharies, and Mikirs clearing new jhums for the ensuing year.	
56	Julpigoree	Feb. 3rd	0	Cloudy and variable.	Not very good	
57	Gowalparah	Jan. 27th	0.7	Misty and rainy	Winter crops reaped; mustard not good.	
58	Garo Hills	" 27th	0	Fair	No crops on the ground.	
59	Darjeeling	Feb. 2nd	0.2	Good	Wheat and barley on the hills, and mustard on the plains promising.	
60	Cooch Behar	Jan. 27th	1.2	Cloudy and cold	Good.	

N. B.—The columns of the districts from which returns have not been received remain blank.

Published for general information.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 6th February 1872.

R. H. WILSON,
Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

**Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological
Reporter's Office.**

DIVISIONS.	Stations.	Rain from 15th to 21st Jan. 1872.	Rain from 22nd to 28th Jan. 1872.	RAIN FROM 1ST JANUARY 1872.		REMARKS.
				Inches.	Up to date.	
CUTTACK.	Cuttack { Telegraph Office ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	28th Jan. 1872.	
	{ Jail ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	False Point ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Jajipore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Kendraparah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Jugatsingapore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Sumbulpore ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Balasore ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	28th Jan. 1872.	Not received 15th to 21st Jan.
	Bhuddruck ...	Nil	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
CHOTA NAGPORE.	Pooree ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	Not received 8th to 14th Jan.
	Khoordah ...	Not received	Not received	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Hazareebangh { Jail ...	0.24	Nil	0.24	28th Jan. 1872.	
	{ Dispensary ...	0.12	ditto	0.12	ditto.	
	Burhee ...	0.10	Not received	0.10	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Puchumba ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Ranchee ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Palamow ...	0.55	ditto	0.55	ditto.	
	Purulia ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
PATNA.	Gobindpore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Chyebassa ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Patna (Bankipore) ...	0.10	Not received	0.70	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Dinapore { Jail ...	0.25	1.58	2.46	28th Jan. 1872.	
	{ Cantonment ...	0.25	1.70	2.55	ditto.	
	Behar ...	0.15	0.69	1.00	ditto.	Not received 8th to 14th Jan.
	Barh ...	Nil	1.18	1.08	ditto.	
	Gya ...	Not received	Not received	0.14	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Sherghotty ...	0.10	Nil	0.10	28th Jan. 1872.	
BHAUGULPORE.	Nowadali ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Arungabad ...	1.03	1.03	2.14	ditto.	
	Chumpanau ...	Not received	Not received	Nil	14th Jan. 1872.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Bettiah ...	0.70	ditto	0.70	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Chuprah ...	Nil	1.50	2.30	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Sewan ...	0.22	0.43	1.19	ditto.	Not received 8th to 14th Jan.
	Mozufferpore ...	0.40	1.40	2.10	ditto.	
	Durbhangah ...	0.03	0.94	0.96	ditto.	
	Seetamarree ...	0.10	0.35	0.95	ditto.	
RAJSHAHYE.	Tajpore ...	Nil	1.20	3.40	ditto.	
	Mudhubani ...	0.20	2.00	2.42	ditto.	
	Hajipore ...	0.12	1.59	2.07	ditto.	
	Arrah ...	0.23	1.45	2.22	ditto.	
	Buxar ...	0.10	1.15	2.58	ditto.	
	Sasseram ...	0.11	0.45	0.64	ditto.	
	Bhubhoobah ...	0.20	1.15	1.40	ditto.	
	Benares ...	Nil	1.55	1.55	ditto.	
	Bhaugulpore ...	0.10	0.11	0.21	ditto.	
BUNDWAL.	Mudheypoorah ...	Nil	0.50	0.50	ditto.	
	Banka ...	ditto	0.20	0.32	ditto.	
	Soopool ...	ditto	0.99	0.99	ditto.	
	Monghyr ...	0.20	1.45	1.27	ditto.	
	Jamoeie ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Bogosoerai ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Dooghur ...	Nil	ditto	0.03	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Jamtara ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Rajnehal ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
BUNDWAL.	Pakour ...	Not received	Not received	ditto	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Nya-Doomka ...	Nil	Nil	ditto	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Purneah ...	ditto	1.20	1.20	ditto.	
	Kishengunge ...	ditto	Not received	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Arrareah ...	Not received	ditto	...	...	
	Rampore Beaulah... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Nattore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Bograh ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Dinagapore ...	0.35	0.60	0.95	28th Jan. 1872.	
BUNDWAL.	Maldah ...	Nil	0.04	0.09	ditto.	
	Berhampore ...	ditto	Nil	0.04	ditto.	
	Jungipore ...	0.03	ditto	0.09	ditto.	
	Lalbagh ...	Nil	ditto	0.11	ditto.	
	Jamoonkandi ...	ditto	Not received	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	Not received 1st to 14th Jan.
	Pubna ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Serajunge ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Rungpore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Bhowanigunge ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
BUNDWAL.	Titallya ...	ditto	1.28	1.28	ditto.	
	Burrowan ...	ditto	Not received	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Cutwa ...	ditto	ditto	0.12	ditto.	
	Culus ...	ditto	ditto	0.02	ditto.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Bood-Bood ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Bancoorah ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Raneegunge ...	ditto	ditto	0.15	ditto.	
	Sooree ...	ditto	ditto	0.07	ditto.	
	Hooghly ...	ditto	ditto	0.50	ditto.	
BUNDWAL.	Serampore ...	ditto	0.06	0.22	ditto.	
	Jehanabad ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Howrah ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Midnapore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Contai { Dy. Collr.'s Office...	ditto	ditto	1.35	ditto.	
	{ Exe. Engr.'s Office	ditto	ditto	1.00	ditto.	
	Gurbetta ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Tumlook ...	Not received	0.18	0.13	ditto.	Not received 8th to 21st Jan.

DIVISION.	Stations.	Rain from 15th to 21st Jan. 1872.	Rain from 22nd to 28th Jan. 1872.	RAIN FROM 1st JANUARY 1872.		REMARKS.
				Inches.	Up to date.	
PRESIDENCY.	Kishnaghur ...	Not received	Not received	0.08	14th Jan. 1872.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Bongong ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Ranaghat ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Meherpore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	7th Jan. 1872.	
	Choudangah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Kooshtea ...	Nil	Nil	ditto	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Jessore ...	ditto	ditto	0.09	ditto.	
	Khoolnah ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Jenidih ...	ditto	Not received	0.20	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Nurail ...	ditto	ditto	0.04	ditto.	
	Magoorah ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto.	Not received 15th to 21st Jan.
	Bagirhaut ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Saugoi Island ...	ditto	Nil	0.02	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Calcutta ...	ditto	ditto	0.22	ditto.	
	Alipore { Hospital ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Alipore { Jail ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Barrackpore ...	ditto	ditto	0.70	ditto.	
	Dum-Dum ...	ditto	ditto	0.10	ditto.	
	Baraset ...	ditto	ditto	0.31	ditto.	
	Satkherah ...	ditto	ditto	0.16	ditto.	
DACCA.	Busseerhaut ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan. Not received 8th to 14th Jan.
	Diamond Harbour ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Barripore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Dacca { Telegraph Office ...	Not received	Not received	0.51	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Dacca { Jail ...	Nil	Nil	0.05	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Burrisaul ...	ditto	ditto	0.37	ditto.	
	Dowlat Khan ...	ditto	Not received	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Perazepore ...	ditto	Nil	0.37	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Madanipore ...	ditto	ditto	0.70	ditto.	
	Furzedpore ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto.	
	Goalundo ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	ditto.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan. Not received 8th to 14th Jan.
	Mymensing ...	Nil	Not received	ditto	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Jamalpore ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Atteah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
CHITTAGONG.	Kishoreganjo ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan. Not received 8th to 14th Jan.
	Sylhet ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Cachar ...	ditto	ditto	0.25	ditto.	
	Hylakandy ...	ditto	ditto	0.39	ditto.	
	Koyah ...	ditto	ditto	0.47	ditto.	
	Chittagong { Telegraph Office ...	ditto	Nil	0.49	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Chittagong { Jail ...	ditto	ditto	0.14	ditto.	
	Cox's Bazar ...	ditto	Not received	0.49	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Ranganutee Hill ...	ditto	Nil	0.59	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Noakhali ...	ditto	ditto	0.59	ditto.	
COCH BEHAN.	Tipperah ...	ditto	ditto	0.26	ditto.	Not received 8th to 21st Jan.
	Brahmanbariah ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Akyab ...	Nil	Nil	0.10	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Cooch Behar ...	Not received	1.20	1.20	ditto.	
	Buxa ...	0.18	0.80	0.98	ditto.	
	Gontparah ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Dhoo bree ...	ditto	1.00	1.00	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Tura (Garo Hills) ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Darjeeling { Telegraph Office ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	
	Darjeeling { Hospital ...	Nil	0.36	0.36	28th Jan. 1872.	
ASSAM.	Runghee ...	Not received	Not received	...	...	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Julpigoree ...	Nil	0.96	0.96	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Boda ...	ditto	2.00	2.00	ditto.	
	Tezporo ...	ditto	Not received	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Nowzong ...	ditto	2.40	2.80	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Mungledyo ...	ditto	Not received	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Burpettah ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Gowhaty ...	ditto	1.70	1.70	28th Jan. 1872.	
	Seelsaugor ...	ditto	Not received	0.48	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Jorchaut ...	Not received	ditto	0.10	14th Jan. 1872.	
SAMSAT.	Golaghat ...	Nil	ditto	0.08	21st Jan. 1872.	Not received 1st to 7th Jan.
	Nazera ...	0.02	ditto	0.22	ditto.	
	Debrooghur ...	Nil	ditto	0.50	ditto.	
	Suddya ...	Not received	ditto	0.80	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Shillong ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
	Cherrapunjee ...	Not received	ditto	0.02	14th Jan. 1872.	
	Jaowai ...	Nil	ditto	Nil	21st Jan. 1872.	
SAMSAT.	Samoogooding ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	

CALCUTTA,
The 3rd February 1872.

HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.